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**JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY™ PART FOUR**

# QUASAR



**48**  
**COSMIC**  
**PAGES**





WENDELL VAUGHN . . . THE FIRST EARTH MAN EVER APPOINTED PROTECTOR OF THE UNIVERSE. BONDED TO THE ENERGY-TRANSFORMING QUANTUM-BANDS THAT ARE BOTH WEAPONS AND SYMBOLS OF HIS STATION. HE FIGHTS AN ONGOING BATTLE TO DEFEND ALL LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE FROM COSMIC EVIL!

STAN LEE PRESENTS . . . QUASAR!

MOMENTS AGO, THE COSMIC AVENGER RETURNED TO THE STRANGER'S LABORATORY-WORLD. HIS MISSION TO FETCH THE PLANET'S MASTER SCIENTIST ACCOMPLISHED.

HE HAD INFORMED THE STRANGER THAT AN OLD ENEMY OF HIS WAS WAITING FOR HIM THERE, BUT NEITHER OF THEM WAS PREPARED FOR THE SUDDENNESS AND SAVAGERY OF THE OVER-MIND'S BLISTERING MENTAL ATTACK.

AIEEEEEERRRGK!

STRANGER--?

HE'S LITERALLY WITHERING UNDER THE ASSAULT-- SHRINKING TO HUMAN STATURE!

MARK GRUENWALD • MIKE MANLEY • D. PANOSIAN & K. WILLIAMS • JANICE CHIANG  
STORY PENCILS INKS LETTERS  
BECTON & ROSAS • LEV KAMINSKY • HOWARD MACHIE • TOM O'FALCO  
COLORS MANAGING ED REGULAR ED OVERMIND ED

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YOU HAVE DONE WELL, QUASAR OF EARTH. YOU HAVE DELIVERED MY ANCIENT ENEMY TO ME.

YEAH, RIGHT INTO AN AMBUSH. GUESS YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF ABOVE SUCH CONCEPTS AS FAIR PLAY, HUH?

AFTER WHAT THE STRANGER DID TO ME LAST TIME, I HAVE NO COMPUNCTIONS ABOUT USING ANY AND ALL MEANS TO SUBDUDE HIM AVAILABLE TO ME. I MUST ADMIT I DID NOT EXPECT HIM TO FALL PREY TO ME QUITE THIS EASILY, HOWEVER.

# GERM

"CONVINCING WORM! YOU THINK I AM UNCONVINCENT OF THE PURPOSE OF YOUR QUESTION? YOUR MIND UNCONTROLLABLE AS IT MAY BE, IS OPEN FOR MY CASUAL INSPECTION.

"I WILL HONOR YOUR REQUEST HOWEVER, SO I MIGHT HAVE AN INFORMED WITNESS TO THE MOMENTOUS PROCEEDINGS OF THIS DAY.

"AND WHEN WE RAN OUT OF WORTHY CHALLENGES, WE TURNED OUR BOUNDLESS AGGRESSIONS UPON OUR OWN KIND, STAGING TOURNAMENTS OF STRENGTH AND CARNAGE.

"THEN ONE DAY SOON AFTER, WE ENCOUNTERED A FOE WHOSE MIGHT RIVALLED OUR OWN -- THE STEWARDS OF THE WORLD WE CALLED GIGANTUS.

"FOR MILLENNIA, WE WAGED WAR WITH THE GIGANTIAN, HEAVILY COMMITTING MANPOWER AND RESOURCES TO THE TASK. YET THEY MANAGED TO RESIST US.

"STARING AT IMPENDING OBIVION, EYUNGIAN SCIENTISTS DECIDED TO INVEST OUR ENTIRE POPULACE'S CONSCIOUSNESSES IN A SINGLE BODY THAT MIGHT SURVIVE OUR EMPIRE'S DEMISE.

"MY PEOPLE WERE THE STEWARDS OF THE WORLD WE CALLED EYUNG. WE WERE A SOLICIOUS PEOPLE, DEVOTING OUR VAST LIFESPANS TO MASTERING THE ARTS OF WAR.

"ACROSS THE GALAXY WE SPREAD, EXTERMINATING EVERY RACE WE COULD NOT SWALLOW. WE CARVED AN EMPIRE ACROSS THE STARS GREATER BY FAR THAN THOSE OF THE KROG OR THE SHI'AR TODAY...

"I BECAME THE CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS, THE MASTER COMBATANT OF THE ENTIRE EYUNGIAN EMPIRE.

"THE BODY WAS MINE. BECAME THE LIVING RECEPTACLE OF THE MINDPOWER OF MY ENTIRE RACE.



DOWN, YES, BUT I DOUBT A GUY WITH THE STRANGER'S POWER IS OUT. I'VE GOT TO DISTRACT THE OVER-MIND. GIVE THE STRANGER TIME TO RECOVER.

SO YOU WANT TO TELL ME WHY YOU HATE THIS GUY SO MUCH?

THE STRANGER MUST HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED FROM HIS TRAVELS, AND LET HIS MENTAL GUARD DOWN.

# OF AN IDEA

"FINALLY, WE DISPATCHED ANTIMATTER REACTION BOMBS CAPABLE OF ANNIHILATING ANYTHING. WE DESTROYED GIGANTUS, BUT NOT BEFORE THE GIGANTIANS LAUNCHED THEIR OWN ANTIMATTER BOMBS AT US!

"THROUGH FREACREARY, THE STRANGER MANAGED TO TEMPORARILY SHUNT ME TO ANOTHER PLANE OF EXISTENCE.

"BUT FROM THERE I TRAVELED TO AN EARTH TANGENTIAL TO YOUR OWN AND VANQUISHED THAT WORLD'S PROTECTORS, THE SQUADRON SUPREME...

SOMETHING HAPPENED TO ME AFTER THAT, THE NATURE OF WHICH I AM STILL UNCERTAIN. SOMEHOW THE BILLION MINDS THAT MADE UP MY CONSCIOUSNESS WERE STUNNED AND SUBALANATED BY THE MINDS OF SIX EARTHLY MENTALISTS.

"THEY MANAGED TO CATAPULT ME INTO THE INTERSTELLAR VOID WHERE MOMENTS BEFORE THE GLORY THAT WAS EYUNGA PROVED NOT TO BE ETERNAL AFTER ALL.

"THAT DAY INEXORABLY ARRIVED, AND I SOJOURNED TO YOUR HOME WORLD, WHERE I ENSLAVED THE FIRST OF EARTH'S CHAMPIONS TO TRY TO OPPOSE ME, THE FANTASTIC FOUR.

"MY CONQUEST OF YOUR SPHERE WOULD HAVE BEEN ASSURED HAD I NOT BEEN VISITED BY THE STRANGER--

"FOR UNTOLD EPOCHS I LAY IN INCUBATION, AWAITING THE INSTANT ALL THE MINDS IN MY GROUP-CONSCIOUSNESS COULD LEARN TO THINK AND ACT IN UNISON...

"-- WHO CLAIMED TO BE THE SUM TOTAL OF THE GIGANTIANS EVEN AS I WAS OF THE EYUNGIANS.





BUT WHEN THE SQUADRON VISITED YOUR PLANET SCANT EARTH-DAYS AGO,\* MY GLUMBERING CONSCIOUSNESS IMMEDIATELY PERCEIVED THEIR EXTRADIMENSIONAL BRAIN PATTERNS.

INSTANTLY MY TRUE CONSCIOUSNESS CAME TO THE FORE, CONSUMING THE PSYCHES OF THE SIX MENTALISTS EVEN AS AN OCEAN ABSORBS DROPLETS OF RAIN.

TO REWARD THE SQUADRON FOR AWAKENING ME, I MENTALLY SUBJUGATED THEM ONCE MORE, AND COMMANDED THEM TO ACCOMPANY ME HERE TO THE STRANGER'S WORLD.

HERE I'VE USED MY MATCHLESS POWER TO DESTROY THE FRUITS OF MY ENEMY'S LABORS, AND NOW MY ENEMY'S MIND ITSELF.

KISSUE #13.

NOT DESTROYED... BOASTFUL ONE, JUST FATIGUED.

AH, STRANGER... YOU AWAKEN AT LAST! GOOD, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SAVOR A VICTORY SO EASY TO ACHIEVE.

YOU WILL HAVE ACHIEVED NAUGHT, OVER-MIND. I WILL VANQUISH YOU EVEN AS I DID IN TIMES PAST!

DO YOUR UTMOST, GIGANTIAN-- YOU WILL NOT TAKE ME UNAWARES AS YOU DID WHEN FIRST WE MET!

WYDA! NOT SURE IF THE STRANGER WAS FAKING IT OR IF HE REALLY DID NEED A BREATH AFTER OUR COSMIC JAUNT, BUT OTHER THAN HIS DIMINISHED SIZE, HE LOOKS READY TO WHIP COSMIC BUTT NOW!





SO WHAT DO I DO--  
HELP HIM? HE'S  
DEFINITELY THE  
LESSER OF THE  
TWO EVILS...

...BUT THE CRUEL AND UNUSUAL  
EXPERIMENTS HE WAS PERFORMING  
ON THE SENTIENT BEINGS HE  
HAD LOCKED UP ON HIS LABWORLD  
WOULD DEFINITELY EARN HIM THE  
WRATH OF SENTIENT RIGHTS  
ACTIVISTS THROUGHOUT  
THE GALAXY!

GUESS  
I'LL JUST  
LEAVE THE TWO  
TO THEIR POWER  
STRUGGLE,  
AND GO  
ABOUT MY OWN  
BUSINESS.



...NAMBLY:  
FINDING  
MY TRAVELING  
COMPANIONS,  
MARKARI  
AND  
HYPERION--



--AND HYPE'S  
FRIENDS, THE  
SQUADRON SU--

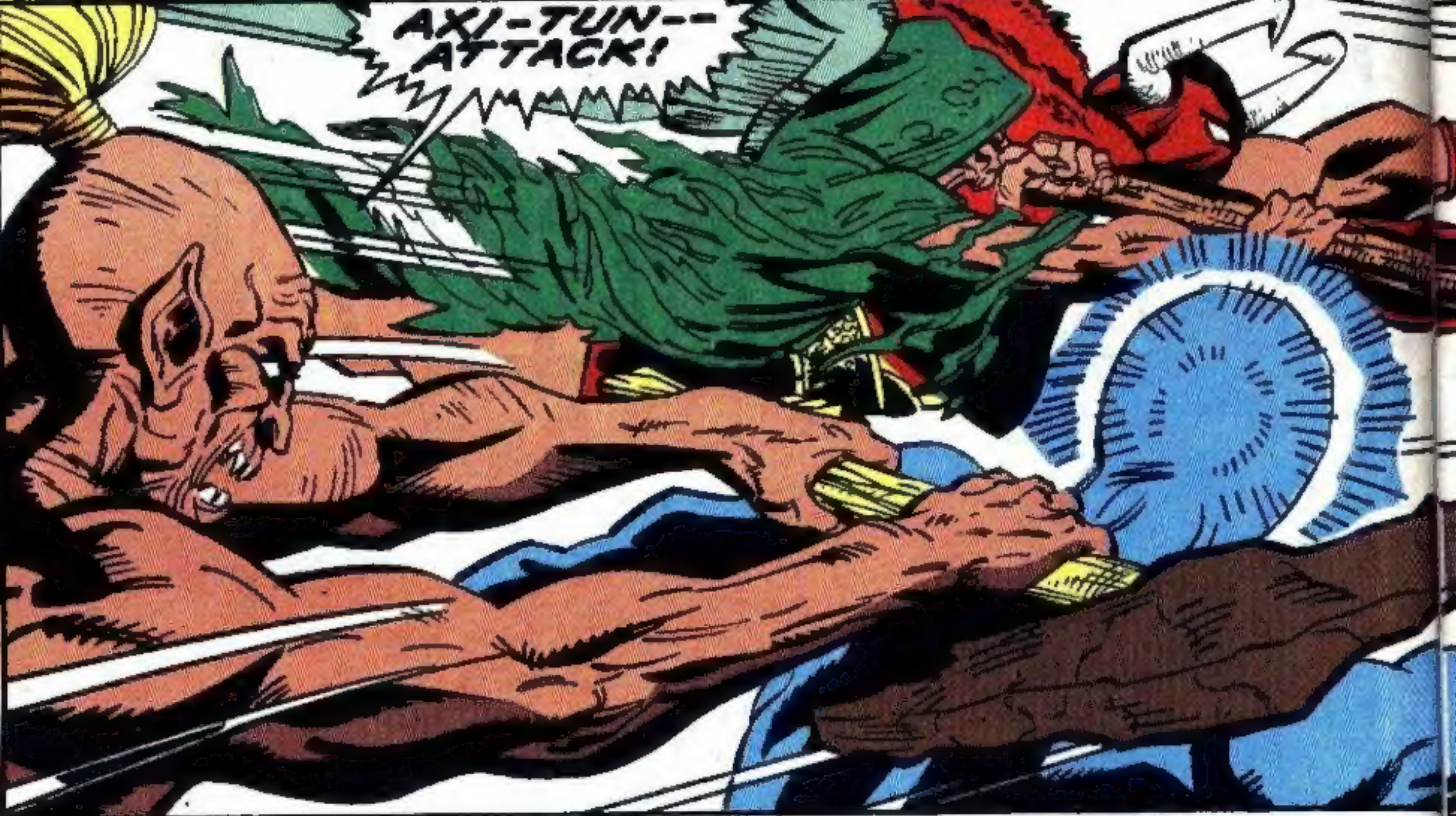
MAN!  
GUESS I WON'T  
HAVE TO FIND  
THE SQUADRON--  
THEY'VE FOUND  
ME!



BUT WHO  
THE HECK  
ARE ALL  
THOSE  
OTHER  
GUYS?











AH! THAT'S WHO THESE OTHER GUYS ARE-- SPARRING PARTNERS. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BY THE WAY THEY WERE DRESSED.

WHAT'S THEIR BEEF WITH ME, THOUGHT?

YO, FELLAS! I COME IN PEACE!

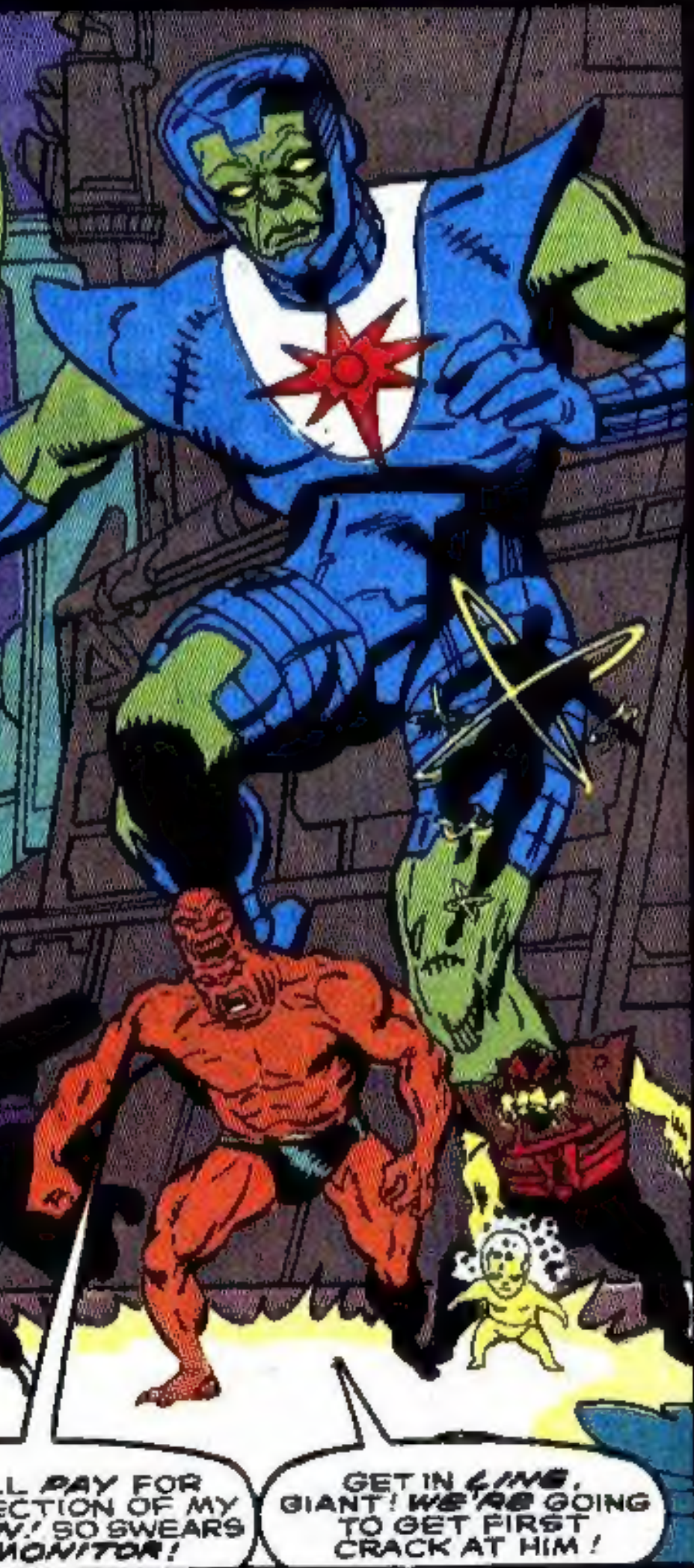
THEY DON'T OBVIOUSLY.



THEY MAY BE WEAPONLESS, BUT THEY'RE STILL OUT FOR MY BLOOD!



ALL RIGHT YOU GUYS-- END OF THE LINE. AND THERE ACROSS THE PLAZA AS PROMISED IS THE GUY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR INHUMAN IMPRISONMENT HERE-- THE STRANGER!



HE SHALL PAY FOR THE VIVISECTION OF MY BROTHERN! SO SWEARS THE MONITOR!

GET IN LINE, GIANT! WE'RE GOING TO GET FIRST CRACK AT HIM!









LOOK!

WHOOH! I HAVEN'T SEEN SUCH A GRAB BAG OF MONSTROIDS SINCE THE DEVIANTS' LAST WEEHIE ROAST!

GREETINGS, OUT-OF-THIS-WORDLINGS! MAKKARI'S THE NAME! I JUST GOT HERE! WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

GRAAH!



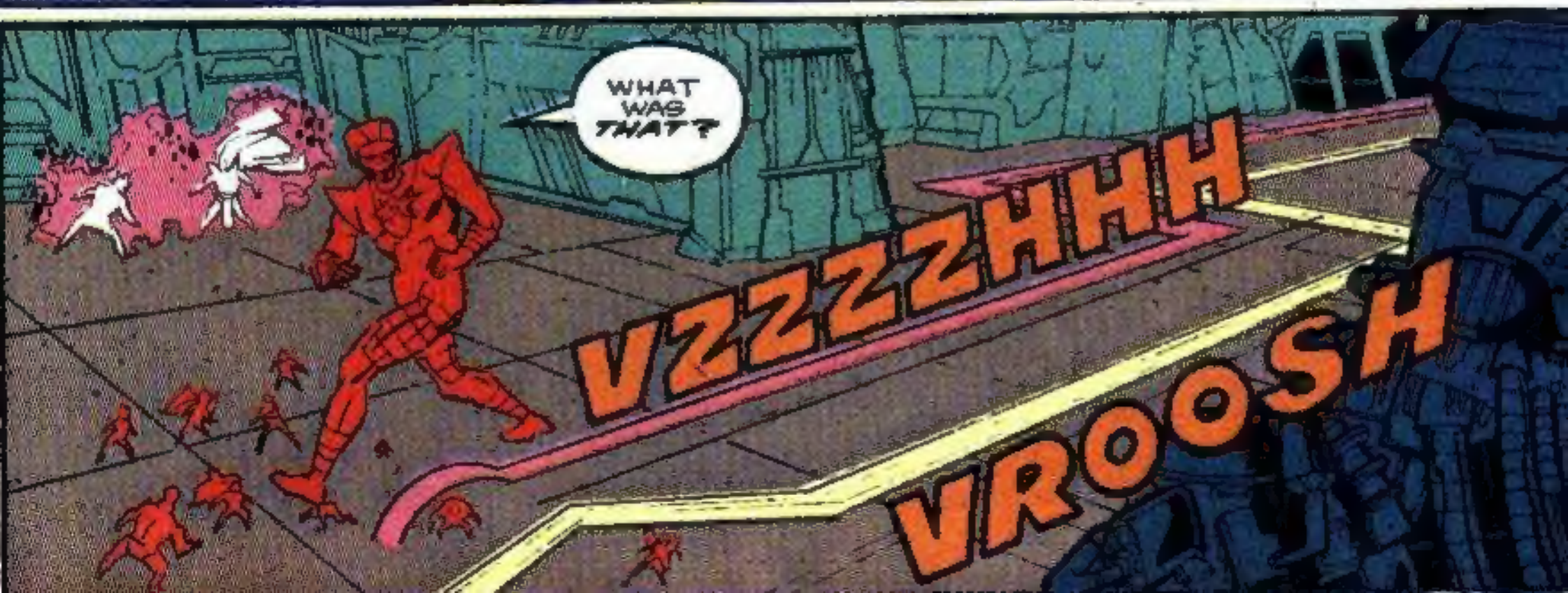
SOMETHING MOVING --!

YOU ARE NOT UNDER THE MASTER'S CONTROL -- YOU MUST BE SUBDUED!

IT'S THE WHIZZER DUDE FROM THE EX-SQUADRON! AND HE DOESN'T LOOK TOO HAPPY TO SEE ME!



SORRY, WHIZ, THIS DUDE'S NOT THE SUBDUED KIND!



WHAT WAS THAT?

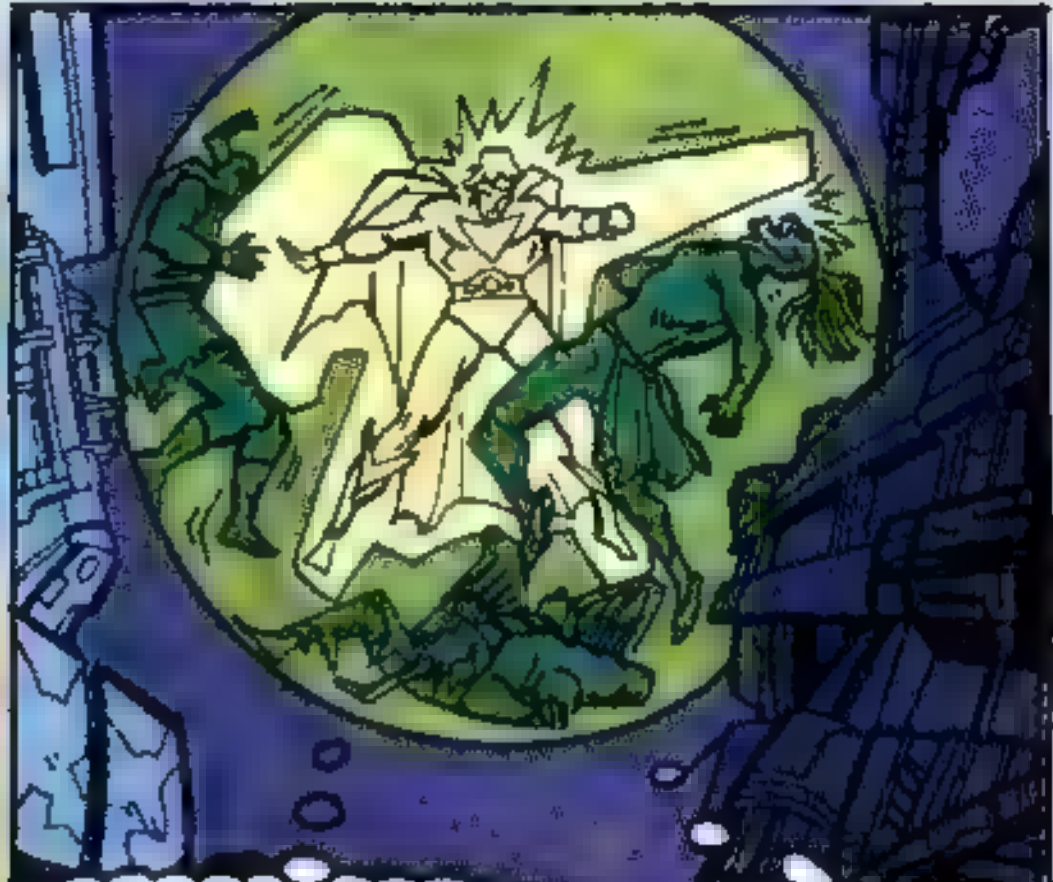
VZZZZHHH

VROOSH



MEANWHILE,  
OVERHEAD...

THESE FOUR WARRIORS ARE  
MADE OF PRETTY STERN STUFF.  
I KNOCK 'EM DOWN AND THEY  
JUST KEEP ON GETTING  
UP AGAIN--!



NOT ONLY THAT,  
NONE OF THEM  
EMPLOYS AN ENERGY  
I CAN TAP INTO... AND  
THESE CLOSE QUARTERS  
REALLY CRAMP  
MY STYLE.

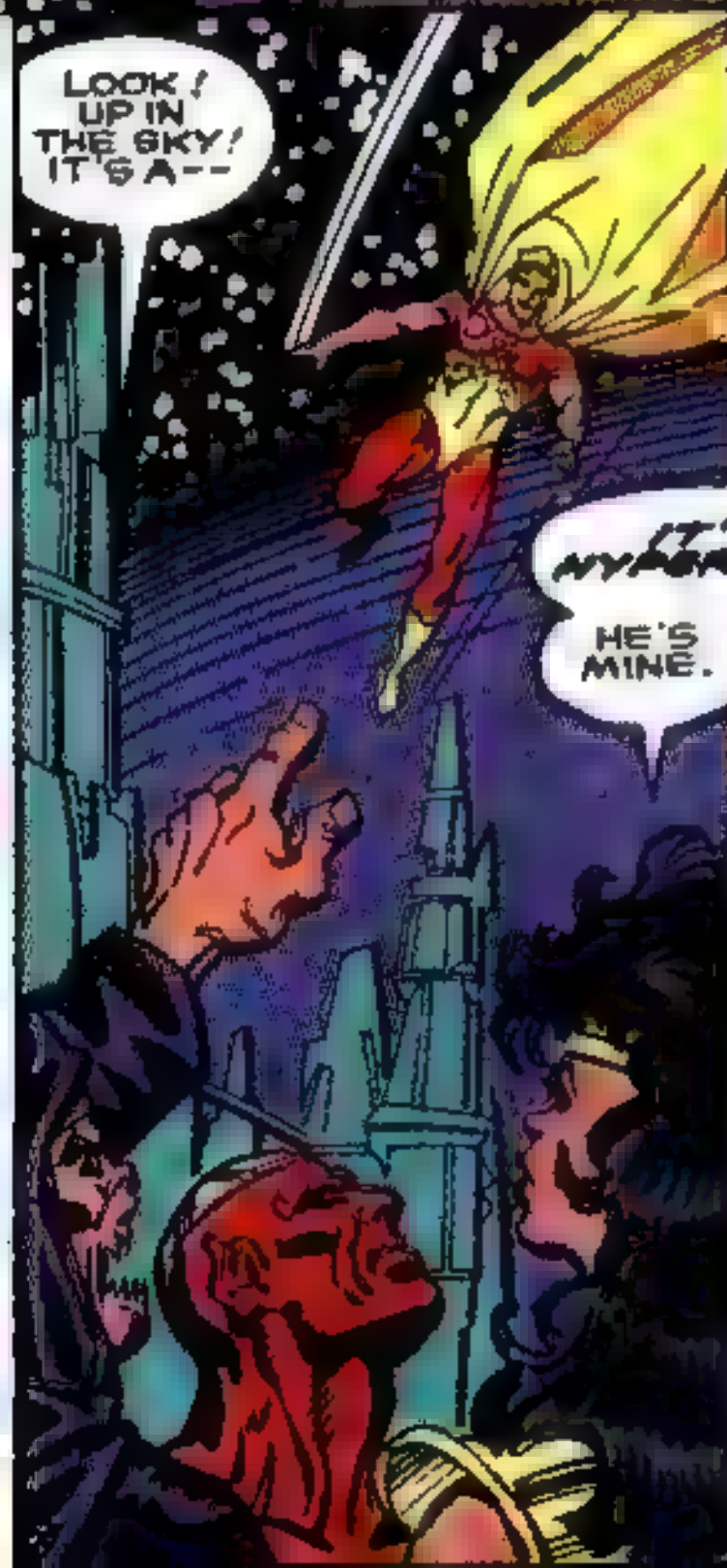
THE QUESTION  
IS WHO'S GOING  
TO FIRE OUT  
FIRST--THE FOUR  
OF THEM OR THE  
ONE OF ME?!

FORTY  
MILES  
AWAY...

THAT HUGE ARROW  
FLOATING IN THE SKY--

--COULD BE AN  
ENERGY-OBJECT  
CREATED BY FELLOW  
EX-SQUADRONER,  
DR. SPECTRUM!

IT'S POINTING  
AT THAT  
CITADEL! WON'T  
TAKE LONG TO  
CHECK OUT!



LOOK!  
UP IN  
THE SKY!  
IT'S A--

IT'S  
HYPERION!

HE'S  
MINE.



EARDA!  
THANK  
ARGON I'VE  
FOUND  
YOU--!

WHAT  
HAPPENED?  
WHO ABDUCTED  
YOU HERE? WHERE  
ARE THE  
OTHERS?



YOU ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS.

WHAT'S WRONG, WITH HER? SHE'S MY GIRLFRIEND, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE! SHE MUST BE UNDER MIND-CONTROL!

COULD THAT MEAN OUR OLD ENEMY THE OVER-MAN IS HERE UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS?

ZARDA, TELL ME WH-OWA!

LOOK, MY LOVE, I KNOW I'M PRACTICALLY INVULNERABLE--

-- BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M GOING TO LET SOMEBODY WITH YOUR STRENGTH USE ME FOR A PUNCHING BAG!

NOW HOW ABOUT TELLING ME-- OOW!

THIS IS BEGINNING TO GET ME ANGRY!

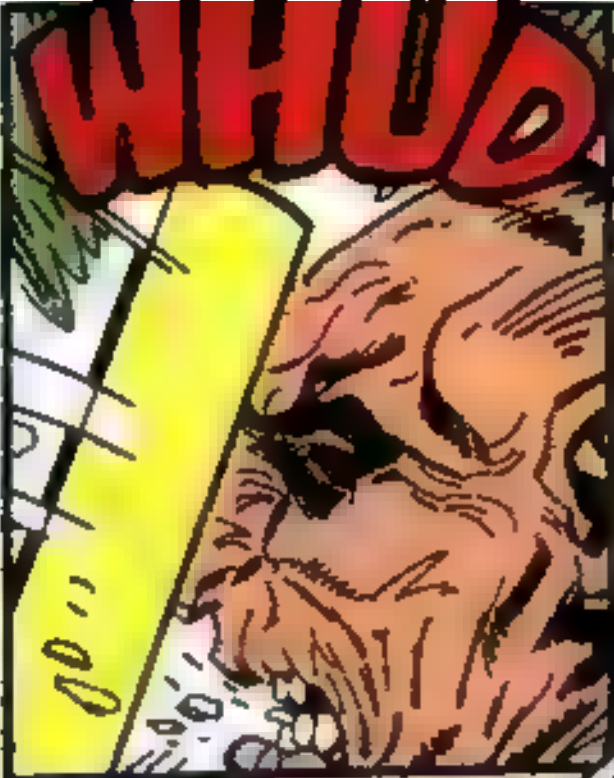


NEARBY...



TWO OF 'EM DOWN FOR THE COUNT-- TWO TO GO!

I KNOW SOMETHING I'VE NEVER TRIED BEFORE--  
**NEWCOMANUS!**



**KRAK**



**WHUD**

WOW! IF ONLY **BRUCE LEE** HAD LIVED TO SEE THIS! I'M DEFINITELY ADDING **THOSE** **GAMES** TO MY STANDARD REPERTOIRE OF TRICKS!

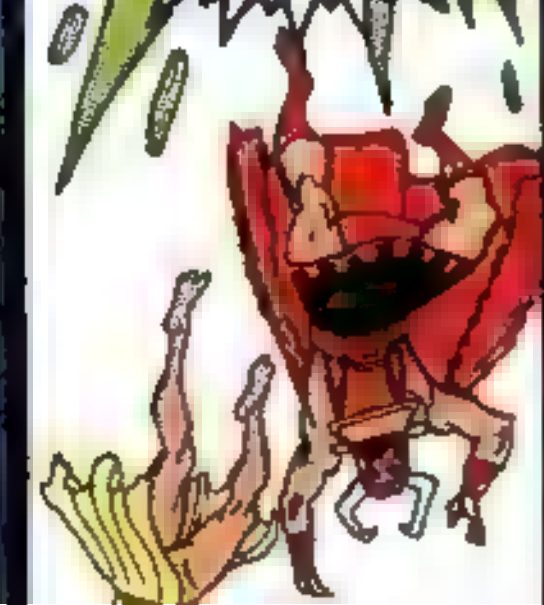
NOW LET'S BEE HOW WELL SPECTRUM BUILT THIS **ENERGY-BUBBLE**. I'LL JUST BUTT MY TWO STICKS **TOGETHER**, WILL THEM TO **EXPAND--**



-- AND REALLY **POUR ON THE JUICE--**



**YESSE!**



DON'T KNOW IF THIS PROVES MY ENERGY'S **STRONGER** THAN SPEC'S OR IF THE MIND CONTROLL'S JUST AFFECTING HIS CONCENTRATION.

DOESN'T MATTER. RIGHT NOW I WANT TO SEE ABOUT GETTING THESE GUYS **FREE** FROM THE OVER-MIND'S **DOMINATION!**



WOW! THE STRANGER  
AND OVER-MIND DON'T LOOK  
LIKE THEY'VE BUDGED  
AN MCM SINCE I  
LEFT THEM!

THAT'S THE  
PROBLEM WITH  
SUPER-COSMIC GUYS.  
THEY DO SO MUCH OF THEIR  
FIGHTING WITH ~~PROFE~~ CHANCES,  
THAT IT'S SOMETIMES  
HARD TO TELL YOU'RE  
ACTUALLY WATCHING  
A FIGHT!

I CAN ONLY THINK OF  
ONE WAY TO GET THE ~~STR~~ O  
TO DROP HIS MIND-CONTROL BUT  
IT PUTS THE ~~STR~~ANGER AT  
GREAT RISK--!

NO OTHER  
OPTION

MY OVER-MIND  
I'LL BET IF YOU  
DROPPED  
YOUR MENTAL  
DOMINATION OVER  
THE SQUADRON  
YOU HAVE MORE  
MIND-POWER  
THROW AT THE  
STRANGER!

HAAH!

WHOSE SIDE  
ARE YOU ON,  
QUASAR?

WHICH  
ONE OF  
YOU IS THE  
GOOD  
GUY?

I COULD  
USE EVERY  
LAST  
ENGRAM OF  
MENTAL  
POWER TO  
MY STRUGGLE  
HERE...

NNNNY YAA!

I WILL  
WITHDRAW  
MY CONTROL  
OVER ALL  
OTHERS!



**SIMULTANEOUSLY,  
ABOVE...**

OKAY,  
ZARDA DEAR.  
I'VE GOT YOU  
PINNED SO  
YOU CAN'T  
STRIKE ME  
ANYMORE.

NOW, ANSWER ME!  
WHO'S MAKING YOU  
ACT LIKE THIS -- THE  
OVER-MIND?!



OH,  
HYPERION...!

HMM? WHAT--  
MMMM...

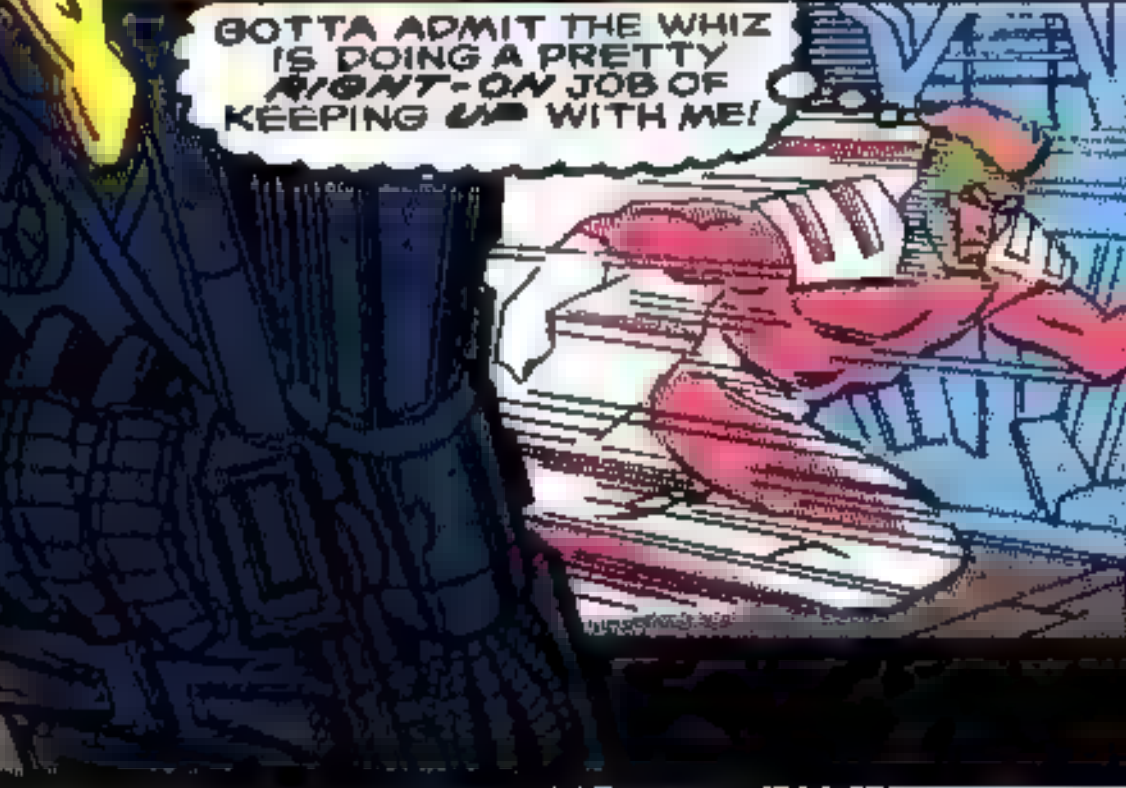
HER KISS...  
I CAN TELL SHE  
MEANS IT!



**SIMULTANEOUSLY,  
AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF  
THE CITADEL...**



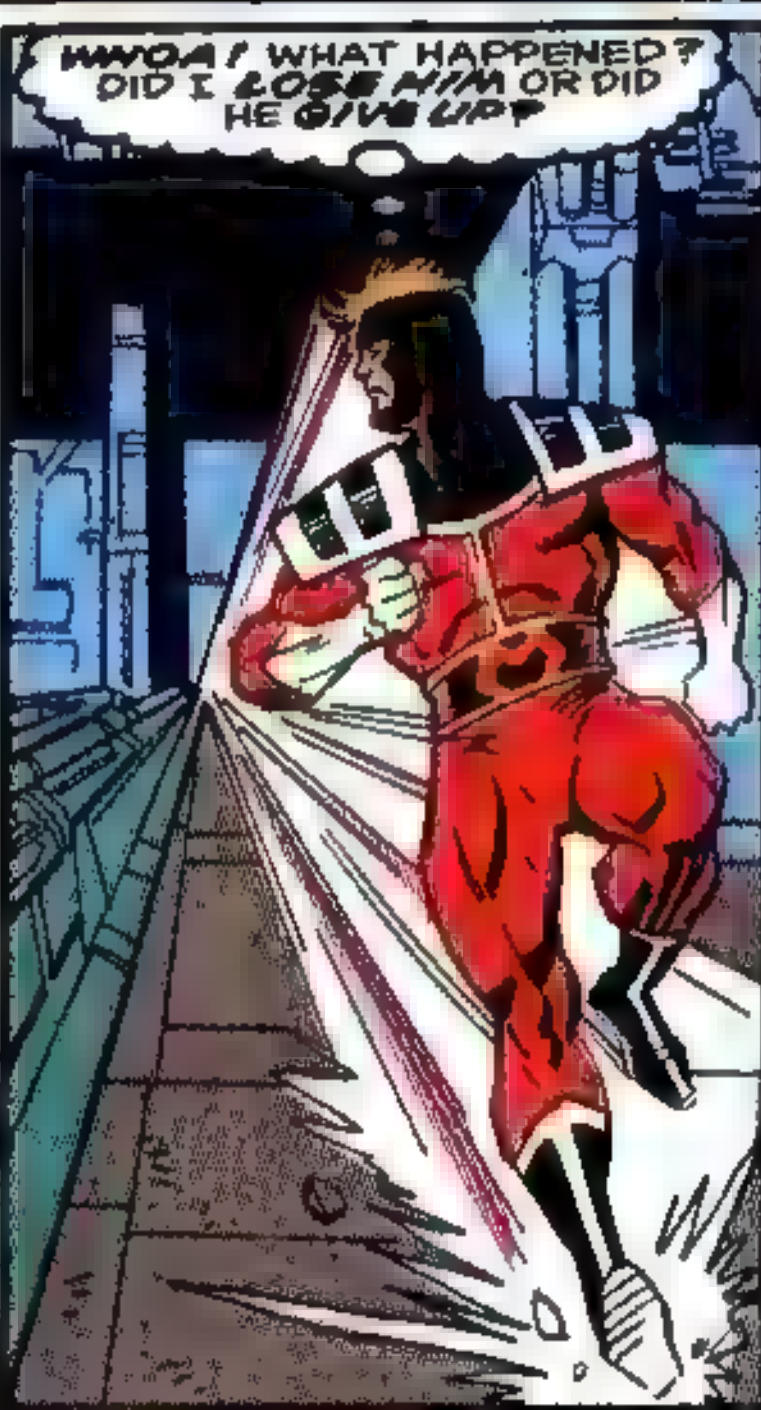
GOTTA ADMIT THE WHIZ  
IS DOING A PRETTY  
RIGHT-ON JOB OF  
KEEPING UP WITH ME!



BUMMER THAT WITH  
ALL THESE TWISTS  
AND TURNS, IT'S  
IMPOSSIBLE TO GET  
UP ANYWHERE NEAR  
MY TOP SPEED!



WOW! WHAT HAPPENED?  
DID I LOSE HIM OR DID  
HE GIVE UP?



BETTER  
SCOPE  
IT OUT!



SIMULTANEOUSLY, EVERYWHERE...

MY... MY HEAD--  
THE OVER-MIND'S  
OUT OF IT!

MINE TOO  
ARCANNA!

AND FINALLY, SIMULTANEOUSLY, NINETY  
MILES OUTSIDE THE CITADEL...

JUST HOLD  
ON A FEW MORE  
MINUTES, BOYS,  
AND WE'LL BE  
THERE, I  
PROMISE!

IF-THIS-  
IS-A-DECEPTION-  
FEW-MOMENTS-WILL-  
DISMANTLE-YOU-  
ORGANIC-  
ONE!

YOU WANT TO  
GET OUT AND WAAZ,  
METALMAN-- JUST  
SAY THE--

--WORD.

MY MIND!  
IT'S MINE  
AGAIN!

SORRY, GUYS. THIS BUS  
HAS JUST GONE OUT  
OF SERVICE!

AIEEE!

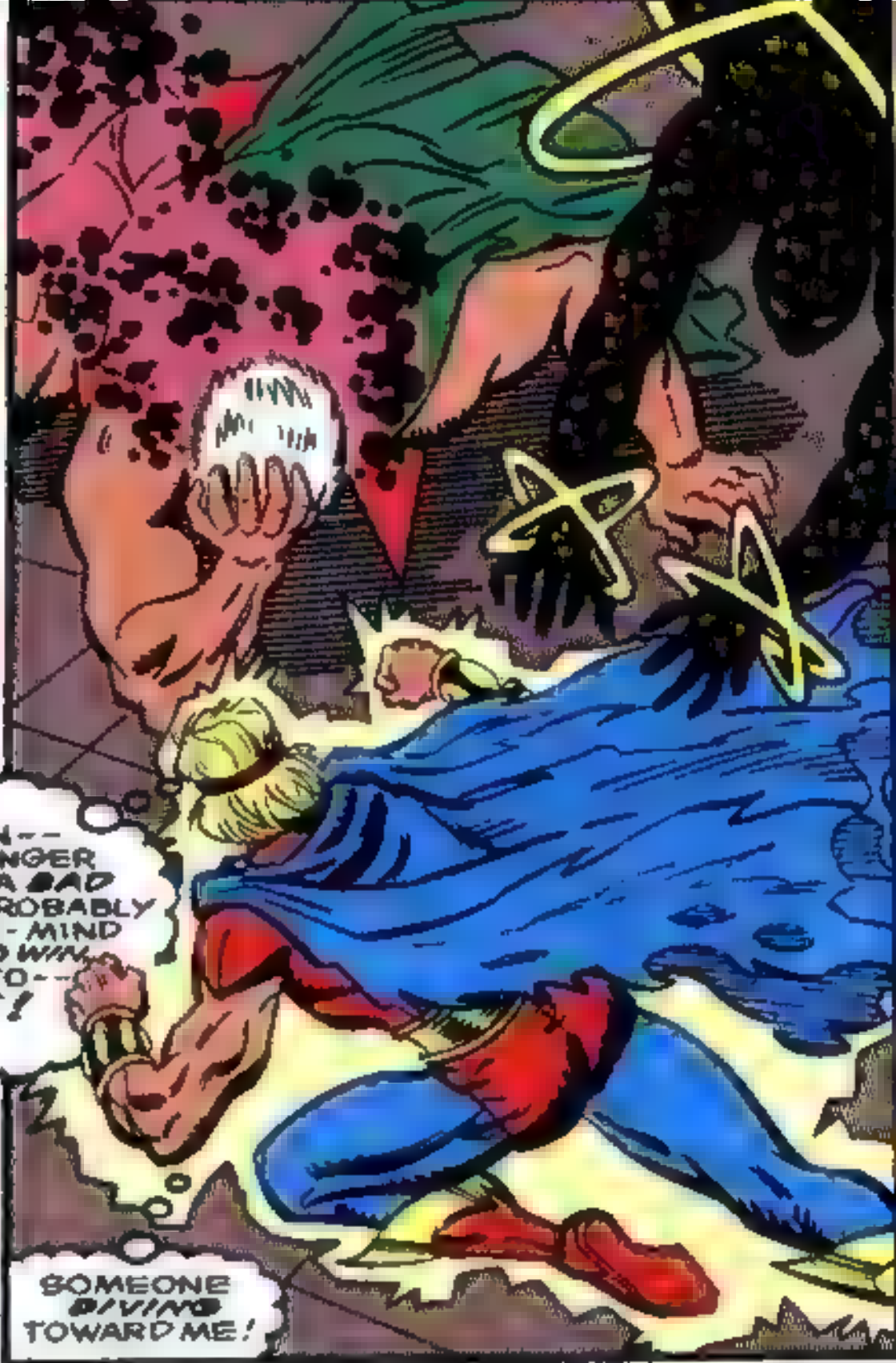


I AM KILLING YOU, STRANGER, ONE BRAINCELL AT A TIME! DO YOU FEEL THEM EXPLODING IN YOUR HEAD LIKE -- WHAT IS THAT EARTHLY FOODSTUFF -- POPCORN?!

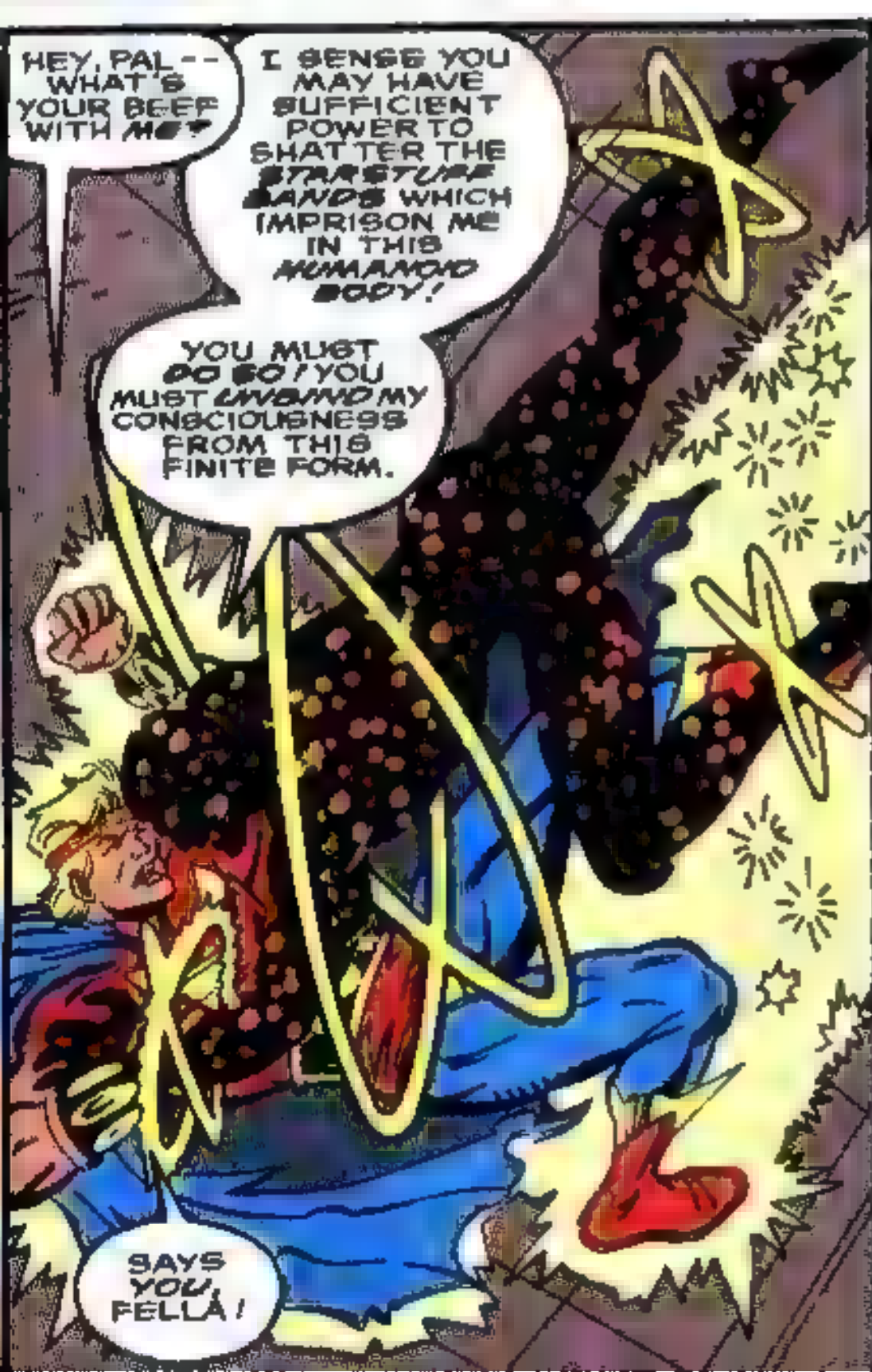


OH, MAN -- THE STRANGER LOOKS IN A BAD WAY, AND I PROBABLY GAVE OVER-MIND THE EDGE TO WIN. I'VE GOT TO -- WAIT!

CAN YOU COMPREHEND HOW MUCH I AM SAVORING THIS, MY ANCIENT ENEMY? OR HAVE I ALREADY RAVAGED YOUR BRAIN'S REASONING FACILITIES?



SOMEONE DIVING TOWARD ME!



HEY, PAL -- WHAT'S YOUR BEEF WITH ME?

I SENSE YOU MAY HAVE SUFFICIENT POWER TO SHATTER THE STARSTUFF BANDS WHICH IMPRISON ME IN THIS HUMANOID BODY!

YOU MUST DO SO! YOU MUST LIBERATE MY CONSCIOUSNESS FROM THIS FINITE FORM.

SAYS YOU, FELLA!



ANNNNNK!

AMBUSHED -- BY WHOM -- T?!

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS HAVE A SHIP, DON'T YOU? YOU HAVE A WAY OFF THIS GOD-FORGAKEN WORLD! YOU MUST TAKE ME TO IT! I MUST GET BACK HOME!

I'LL TRY AERIAL JUTSU -- BREAK HER HOLD!





**FRZAAK**

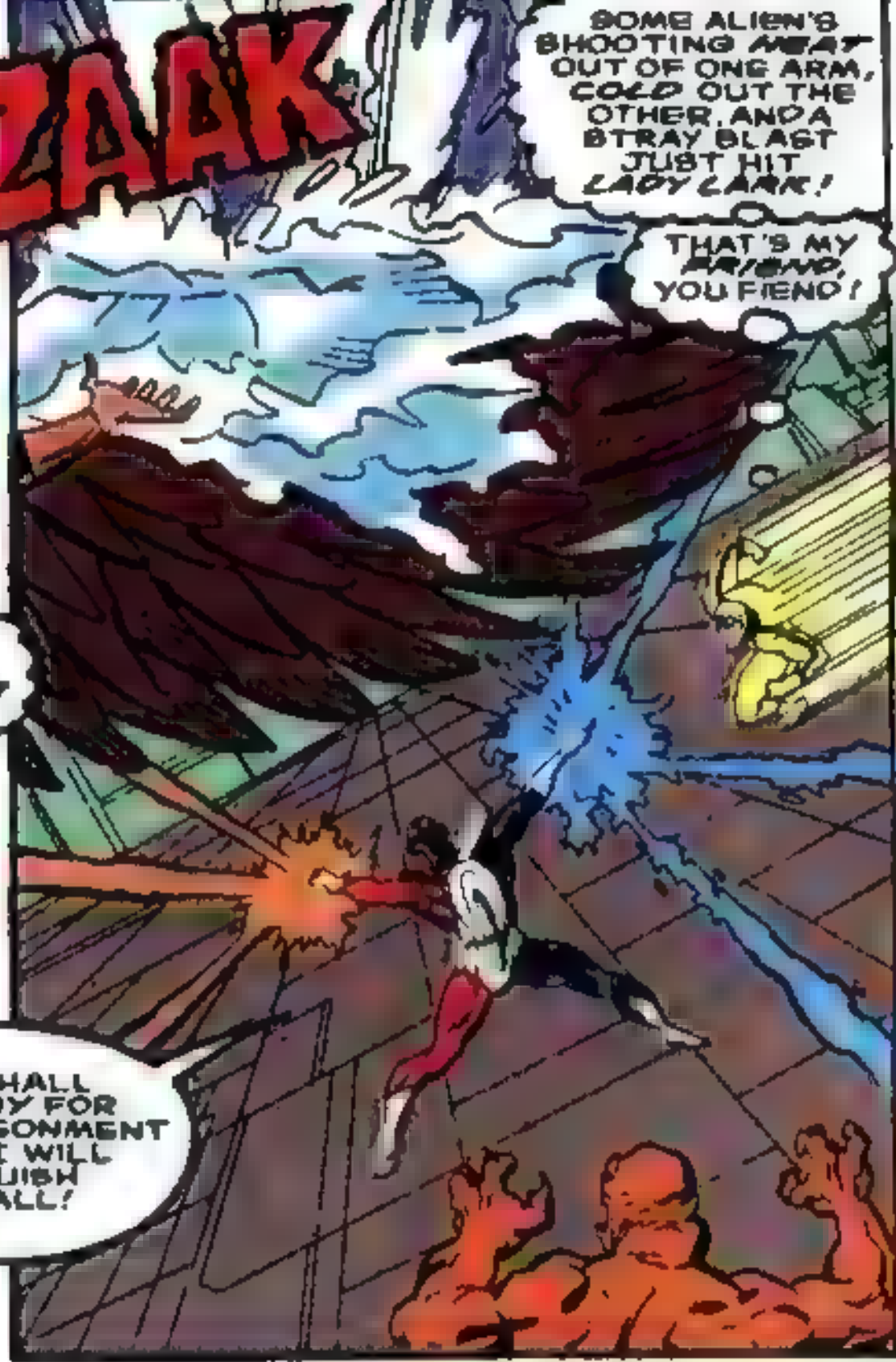
SOME ALIEN'S  
SHOOTING HEAT  
OUT OF ONE ARM,  
COOL OUT THE  
OTHER, AND A  
STRAY BLAST  
JUST HIT  
LADY LARK!

THAT'S MY  
FRIEND,  
YOU FIEND!

OH! MY  
WING--!  
HMM?--?

YOU SHALL  
ALL PAY FOR  
MY IMPRISONMENT  
HERE! I WILL  
VANQUISH  
YOU ALL!

RELEASE  
ME!  
RELEASE  
ME!



TO  
SOMEONE  
MOVING  
AS FAST  
AS ME--

--YOU  
STAND  
LIKE A  
STATUE!

I'M GOING  
TO GO HELP  
OUT LARK!

I CAN DUCK BENEATH  
YOUR BLASTS AND SHOWER  
A HUNDRED BLOWS UPON  
YOU BEFORE YOU HAVE  
TIME TO REACT TO THE  
FIRST ONE!

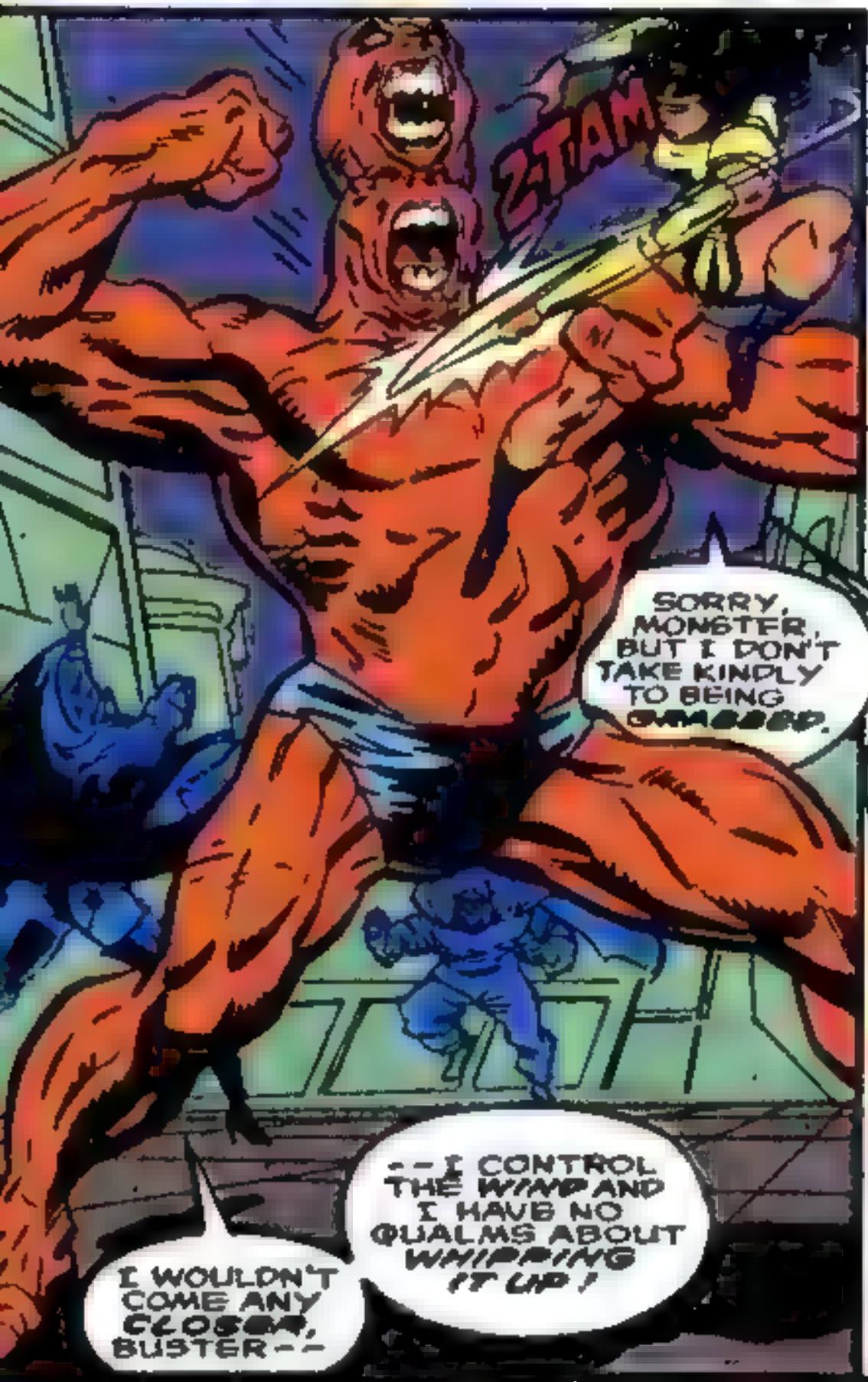


LOOKS LIKE SOME  
OF OUR TEAMMATES  
HAVE GOTTEN INTO  
SOME BRAWLS!

WATCH OUT  
FOR THAT  
FLYING  
DWARF!

WHAT  
FLYING--?







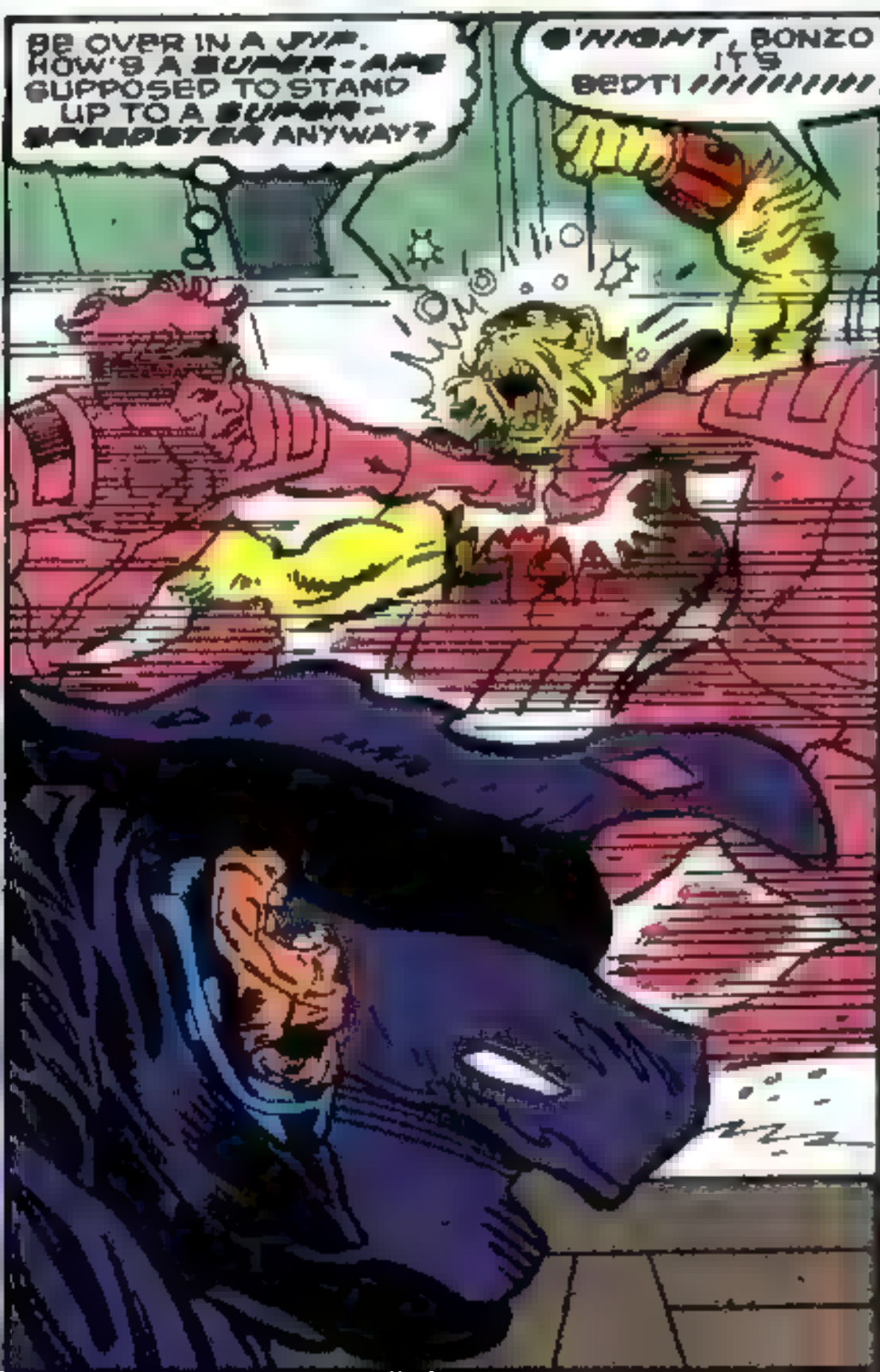


WHOAAA--! WHERE'D THAT **SUDDEN WIND** COME FROM?

OH, WELL, SINCE I'M **HERE**, I MAY AS WELL TAKE THE FIGHT OUT OF THE **GOLDEN GORILLA** TOO!



I CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT HE'S GOT A **BOMB** TO PICK WITH SOMEONE HERE, SAME AS EVERYONE **ELSE**.



BE OVER IN A **JIFF**. NOW'S A **SUPER-HERO** SUPPOSED TO STAND UP TO A **SUPER-SPEEDSTER** ANYWAY?

O'NIGHT, BONZO--  
IT'S  
BEDTI!!!!!!!!!!!!



GROUND **EXPLODED!** GOTTA GET MY **FEET** BACK UNDER ME OR I'M GONNA LEAVE A LONG **RED** **SMEAR**--!



THE MINORITY OF IT ALL! TO HAVE STALKED THE STARLANES FOR UNTOLD INTERVALS, DESTROYING HUNDREDS OF WORLDS NOT TO OUR **LIVING**--

--AND NOW MY FELLOW MONITORS ARE DEAD AND I AM STRANDED HERE WITH THE SORT OF INFERIOR BEINGS WE HAD ROUTINELY EXTERMINATED!



MANAGED TO FREE MYSELF FROM HIS GRIP, BUT IT COST ME HALF MY BODY ARMOR!

OH, GREAT-- ALL THESE ALIENS I BROUGHT HERE ARE RUNNING AMOK, AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE BIGGEST AMOK-RUNNER IS THAT GIANT GUY!

BETTER TRY TO TAKE HIM DOWN BEFORE HE HURTS SOMEBODY!



BY THE MAJESTY THAT  
WAS MARVAY, ALL OF YOU  
WILL KNOW THE WRATH  
OF THE LAST MONITOR!  
AND YOU SHALL FARE THAT  
KNOWLEDGE WITH YOU TO  
OBLIVION'S BOSOM!

MANAGED TO BREAK  
FREE OF MADAME  
DRAGONFLY WITH  
MY SONIC SONG-CRY,  
BUT HOW AM I GOING  
TO GET OUT OF THE  
WAY OF THAT  
HEAT-BLAST WITH  
ONE HAND STILL  
ON THE PRITZ?

MOOOOLES!  
I'M STILL IN  
ONE PIECE--  
UNLESS YOU'RE  
COUNTING THE  
SEAT OF  
MY PANTS!

GOOD GODDESS!  
THAT CREATURE'S  
ENERGIES TEAR THE  
VERY BIO-SPHERE  
ASUNDER! IF HE'S  
THAT POWERFUL, HOW  
POWERFUL MUST THE  
STRANGER BE TO  
HAVE BEEN ABLE  
TO IMPRISON  
HIM?!

HEY, BULLY-BOY, I WANT  
YOU TO KEEP YOUR  
HAND-BLASTS TO  
YOURSELF, YOU HEART

IF I HAVEN'T  
MADE THESE  
MITTS STRONG  
ENOUGH, HE'S  
GONNA  
INCINERATE  
ME!

WHO  
DARES--?



FIND AT THE CENTER OF THE QUADRANGLE...



WHY DO YOU  
PROLONG YOUR  
AGONY, MY ANCIENT  
ENEMY? SURRENDER  
YOUR MIND TO ME  
AND YOUR  
BRAIN-DEATH  
WILL BE  
INSTANTANEOUS!

SOMETHING...  
SOMETHING  
YOU SHOULD  
KNOW...

"MANY  
GALACTIC  
REVOLUTIONS  
AGO..."

"... WHEN I FIRST BEGAN  
COLLECTING SPECIMENS FOR  
MY EXPERIMENTS REGARDING  
THE NATURE OF LIFE IN THE  
UNIVERSE..."



"... I HAPPENED UPON  
AN UNUSUAL ORGANIC  
SAC FLOATING IN  
INTERSTELLAR SPACE

"INSIDE, I SENSED, WAS A GESTATING BEING  
FAR MORE ADVANCED THAN ANY I HAD HERETO-  
FORE DISCOVERED..."

"PERHAPS, I SPECULATED, A  
MEMBER OF THE LONG-LOST  
RACE THAT BIERED ME..."



"IN MY YOUTHFUL  
EXUBERANCE, I  
INJURED THE GESTATING  
BEING WITHIN THE SAC  
WHILE TRYING TO  
EXTRICATE IT... INJURED  
IT FATAALLY..."

"BUT BEFORE IT EXPIRED, IT COMMUNICATED TO ME  
WHO IT WAS - THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF AN AGE-OLD  
CIVILIZATION DESTROYED IN COSMIC WAR..."





WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY SOMETHING TO ME?

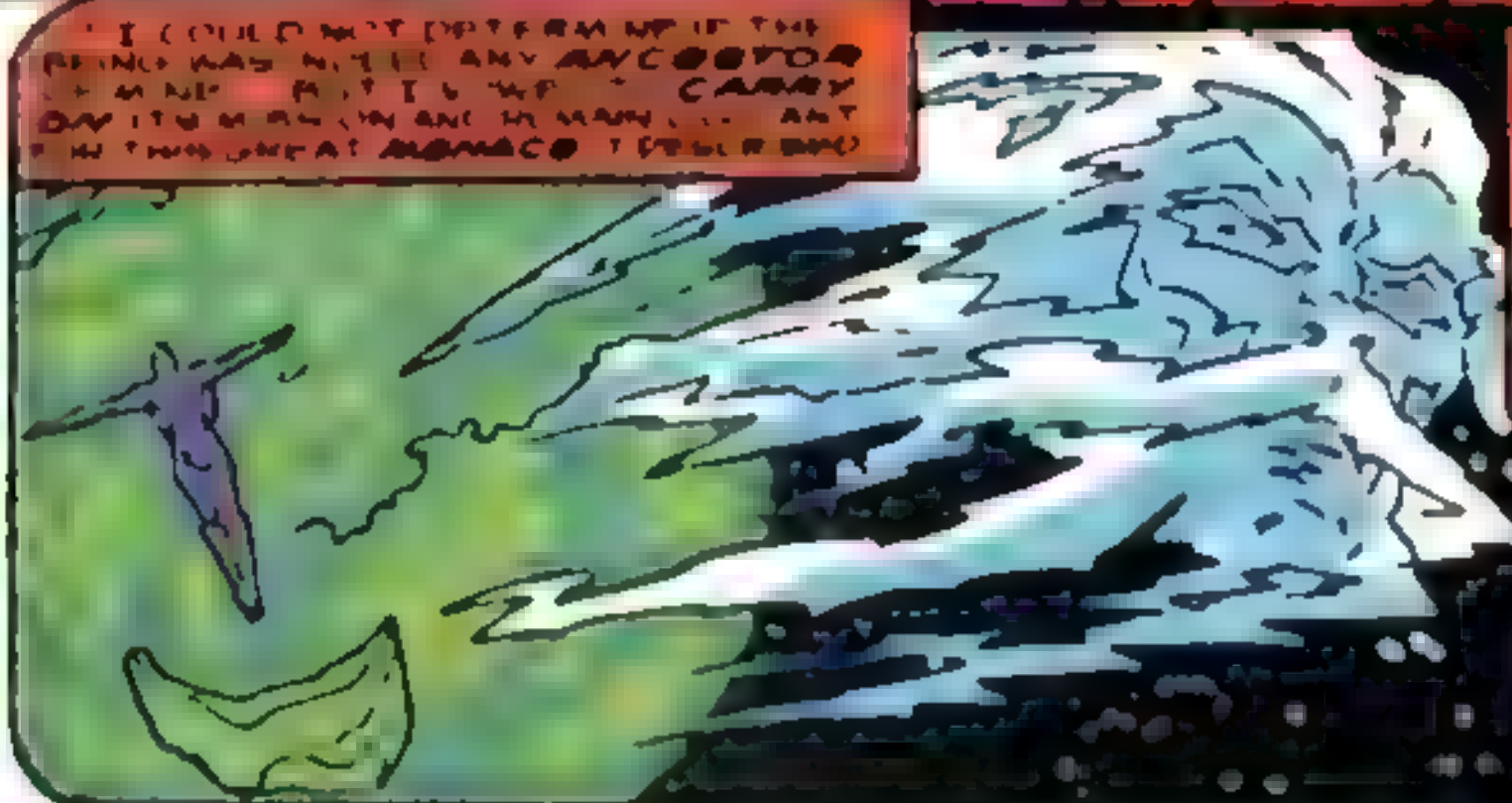
I AM NOT WHO YOU THINK I AM, OVER-MIND  
I AM NOT YOUR ANCESTRAL ENEMY --  
THE EMBODIMENT OF THE LAST GENERATION OF  
THE PLANET YOU CALL GIANTUS...

YOU ARE --  
YOU'RE JUST SAYING THAT  
TO TRY TO  
DECEIVE MY  
HEART!



NO IT'S  
TRUE...

I COULD NOT DETERMINE IF THE  
BEING WAS NEE ANY ANCESTOR  
-- MINE -- BUT I SAW -- CARRY  
ON IT'S OWN IN ANOTHER MAN -- AND  
IN THIS GREAT MOMENT I DECIDED



THAT MOMENT  
OVER MY HEAD WAS  
YOU WERE  
I KNEW -- MY  
WENT HAVING NO  
PARTIALITY --  
MY SAYING TO  
SUCH A STATE  
I AM HAVING  
AND MY MIND I  
WENT THERE TO  
STOP YOU --

-- AND FOR SIMPLICITY'S SAKE REPRESENTED MYSELF AS  
THE BEING I HAD ANCESTOR -- YOUR ANCESTRAL ENEMY,  
THE HEIR OF GIANTUS

CAN WHAT YOU ARE  
SAYING BE TRUE?

CAN -- AND IS...



SEE! IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE!  
FOR HUMILIATING ME IN OUR FIRST ENCOUNTER,  
I SHALL KILL YOU ANYWAY!

HE'S PLANNING  
WANT TO GO  
OUT AND  
THREATEN THE  
LAST SURVIVOR  
OF THE  
BY -- HE WENT  
EVEN WHEN  
HE RECALLED  
WILL --  
ATTEMPT TO  
ENSLAVE  
THE GALAXY  
WITH THE LAST  
COSMICAL  
ABILITY



**BUT THEN...**

IT APPEARS HE IS ENGAGED IN BATTLE AT THIS JUNCTURE.

BUT IT IS IMPERATIVE WE TALK TO HIM.

TO INTERFERE IS TO DISOBEY OUR OATH.

WE WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THIS ALTERCATION IS CONCLUDED.

SOMETHING LARGE-- MATERIALIZING OVERHEAD! BUT I DARE NOT TAKE MY ATTENTION OFF THE STRANGER TO SEE WHAT IT IS FOR SO MUCH AS A HAND-SECOND--

--LEST THE STRANGER SEIZE THE ADVANTAGE!





MOMENTS BEFORE. NEARBY...

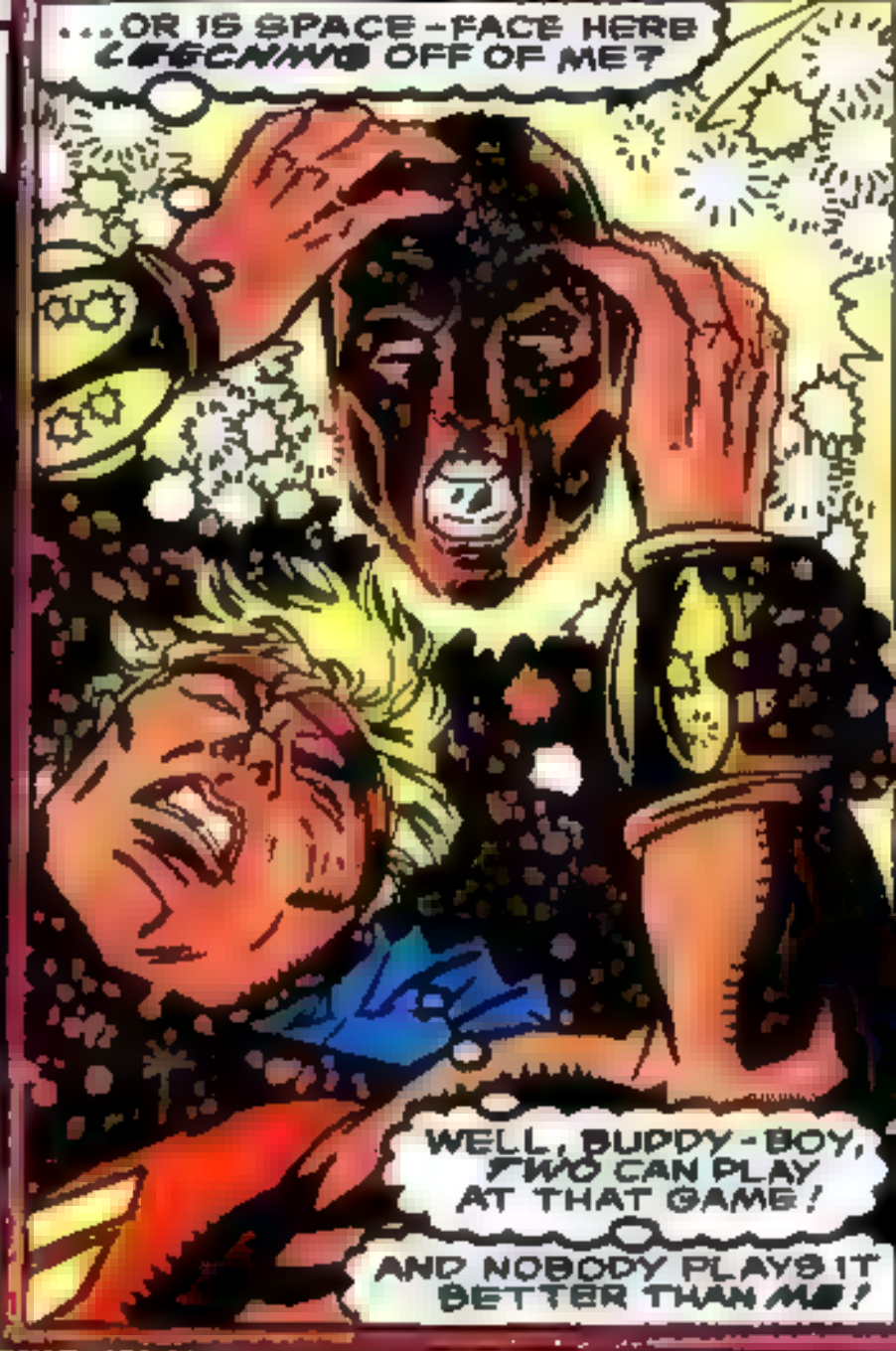
THIS GUY  
STARDUST IS  
A TENACIOUS  
BO-AND-BO--

-- SOON AS I BREAK  
FREE OF ONE  
WRESTLING HOLD, HE  
HAS ME IN ANOTHER!

...OR IS SPACE-FACE HERE  
LESCANNING OFF OF ME?



THAT FIGHT  
WITH THE FOUR  
IN THE BUBBLE  
MUST'VE TAKEN  
MORE OUT OF  
ME THAN I  
THOUGHT...

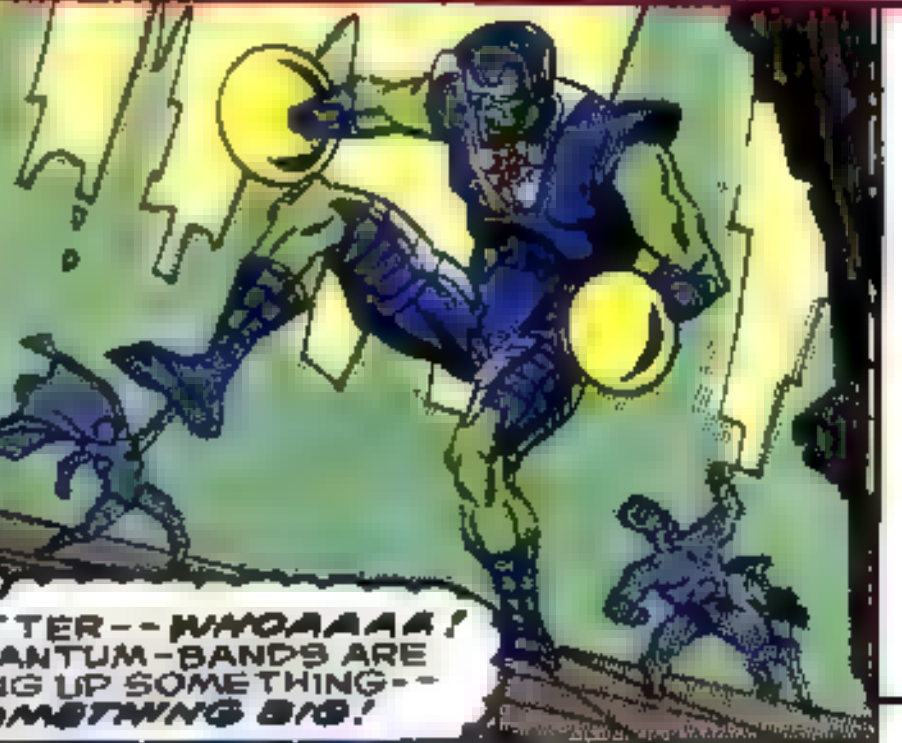
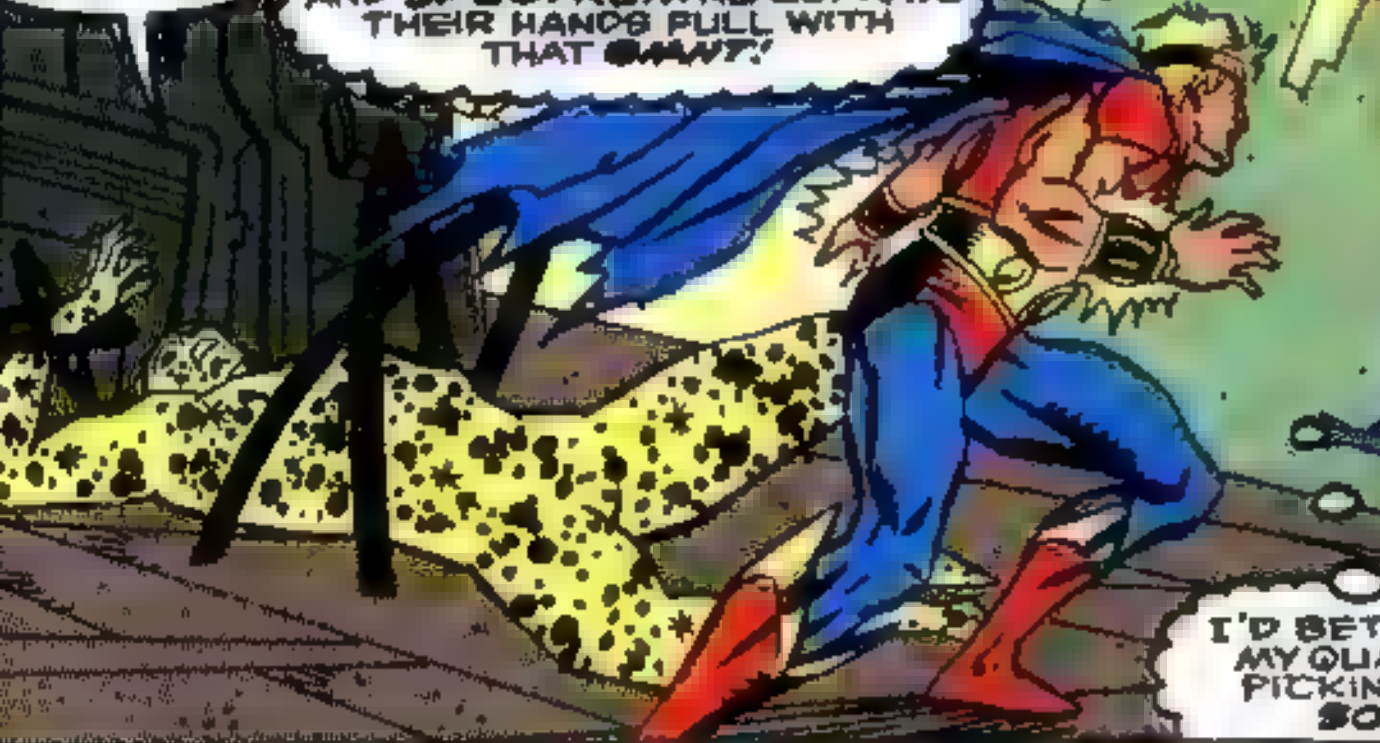


WELL, BUDDY-BOY,  
TWO CAN PLAY  
AT THAT GAME!

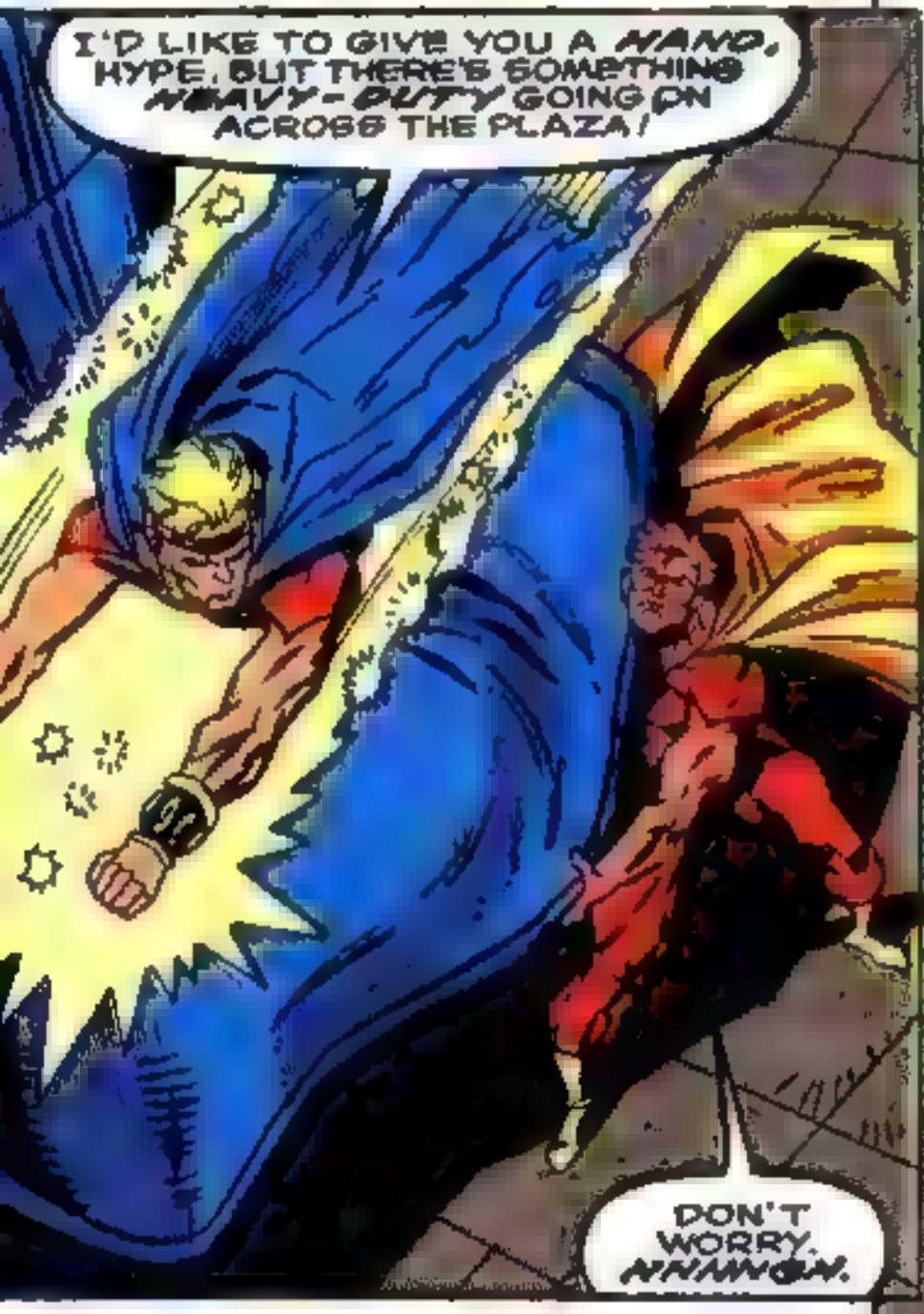
AND NOBODY PLAYS IT  
BETTER THAN ME!

UHHHHH...

LOOKS LIKE *HYPERION*  
AND *SPECTRUM* REALLY HAVE  
THEIR HANDS FULL WITH  
THAT *SAWT*!



I'D BETTER-- *WHOOAAA!*  
MY QUANTUM-BANDS ARE  
PICKING UP SOMETHING--  
SOMETHING BIG!



I'D LIKE TO GIVE YOU A *HAND*,  
HYPE, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING  
*HEAVY-DUTY* GOING ON  
ACROSS THE PLAZA!

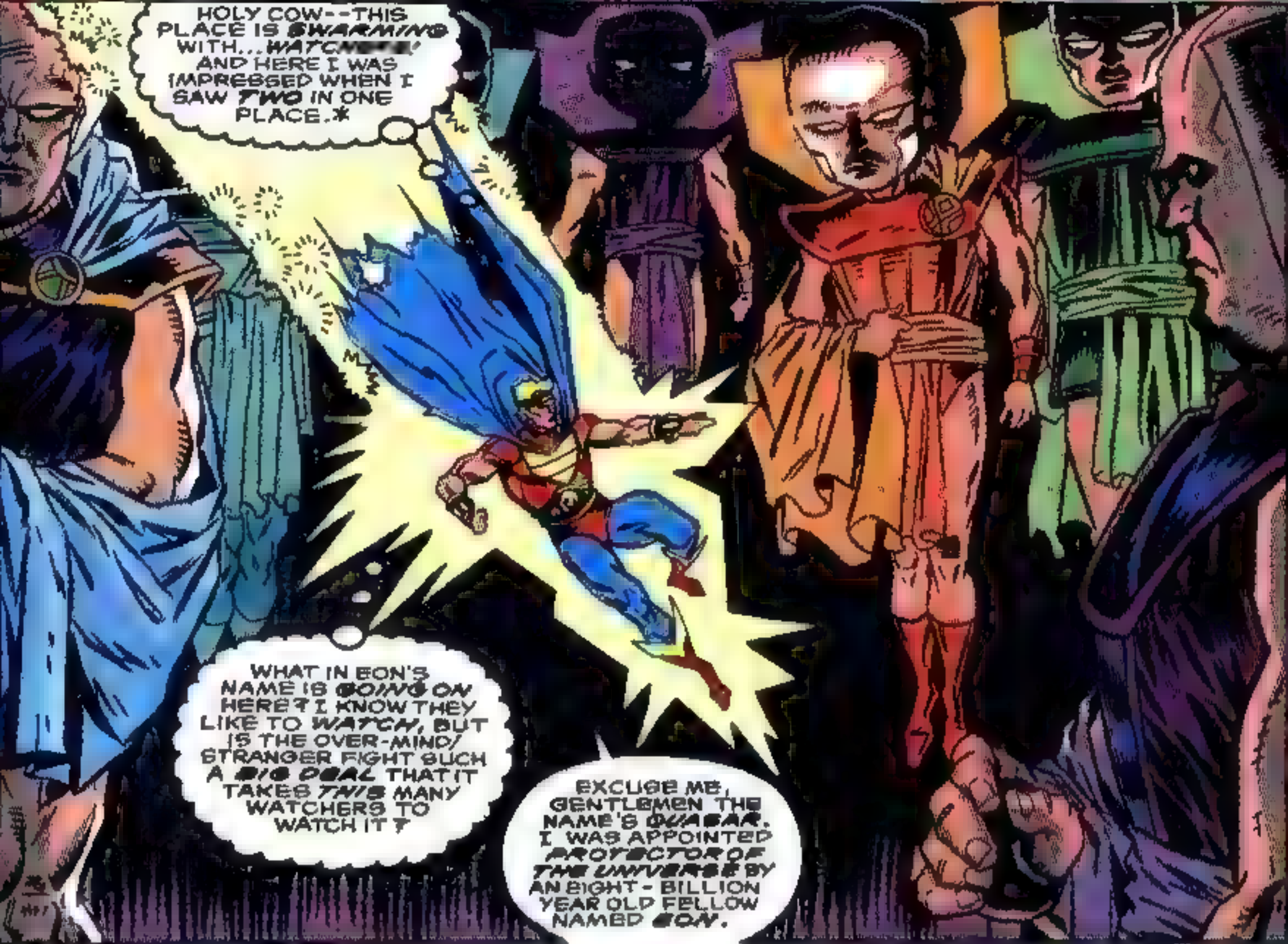
DON'T  
WORRY.  
*ANNNNN.*



I'VE GOT THIS  
SITUATION UNDER  
CONTROL!

**WHUMP**



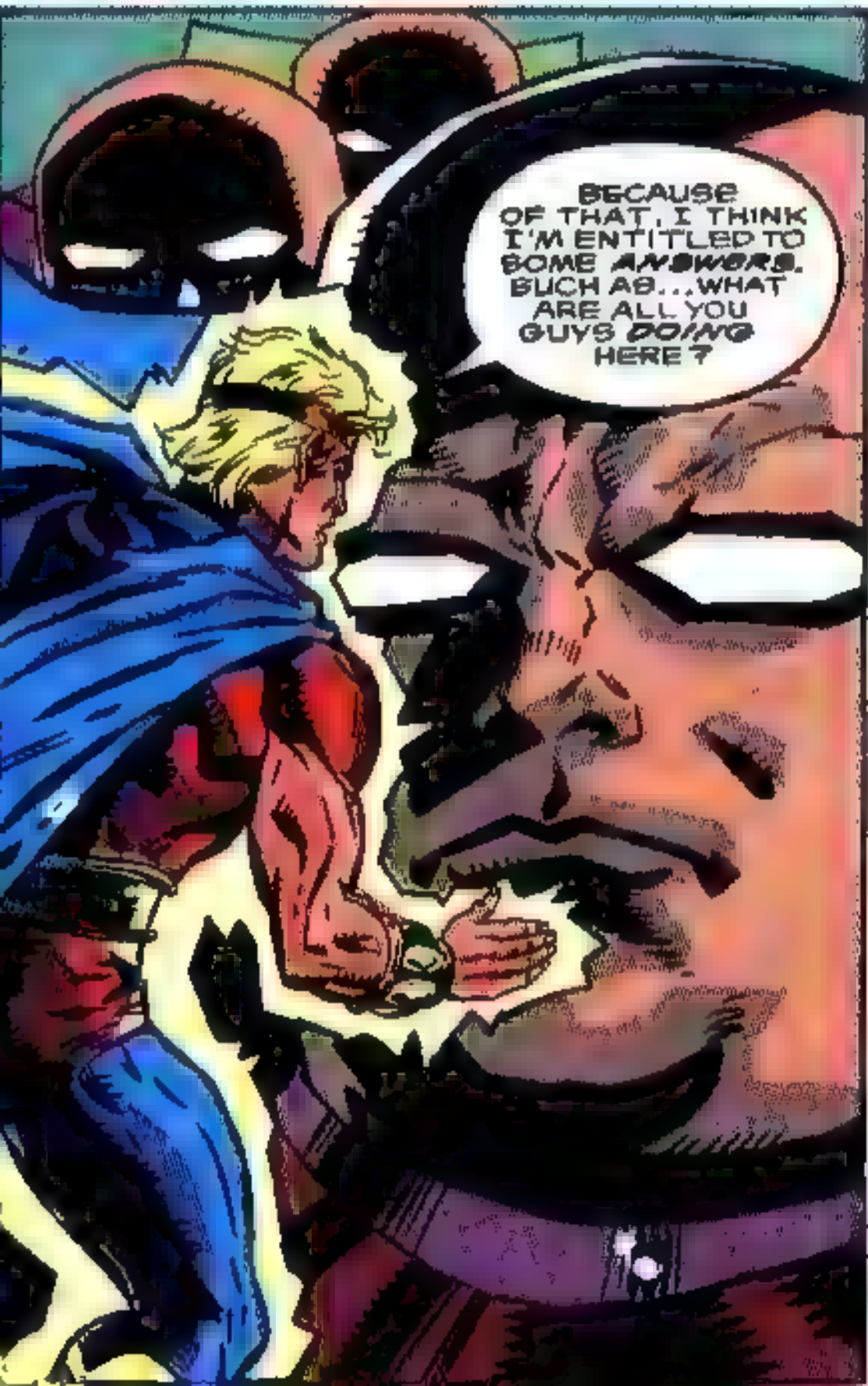


HOLY COW - THIS PLACE IS SWARMING WITH... WATCHERS! AND HERE I WAS IMPRESSED WHEN I SAW TWO IN ONE PLACE.\*

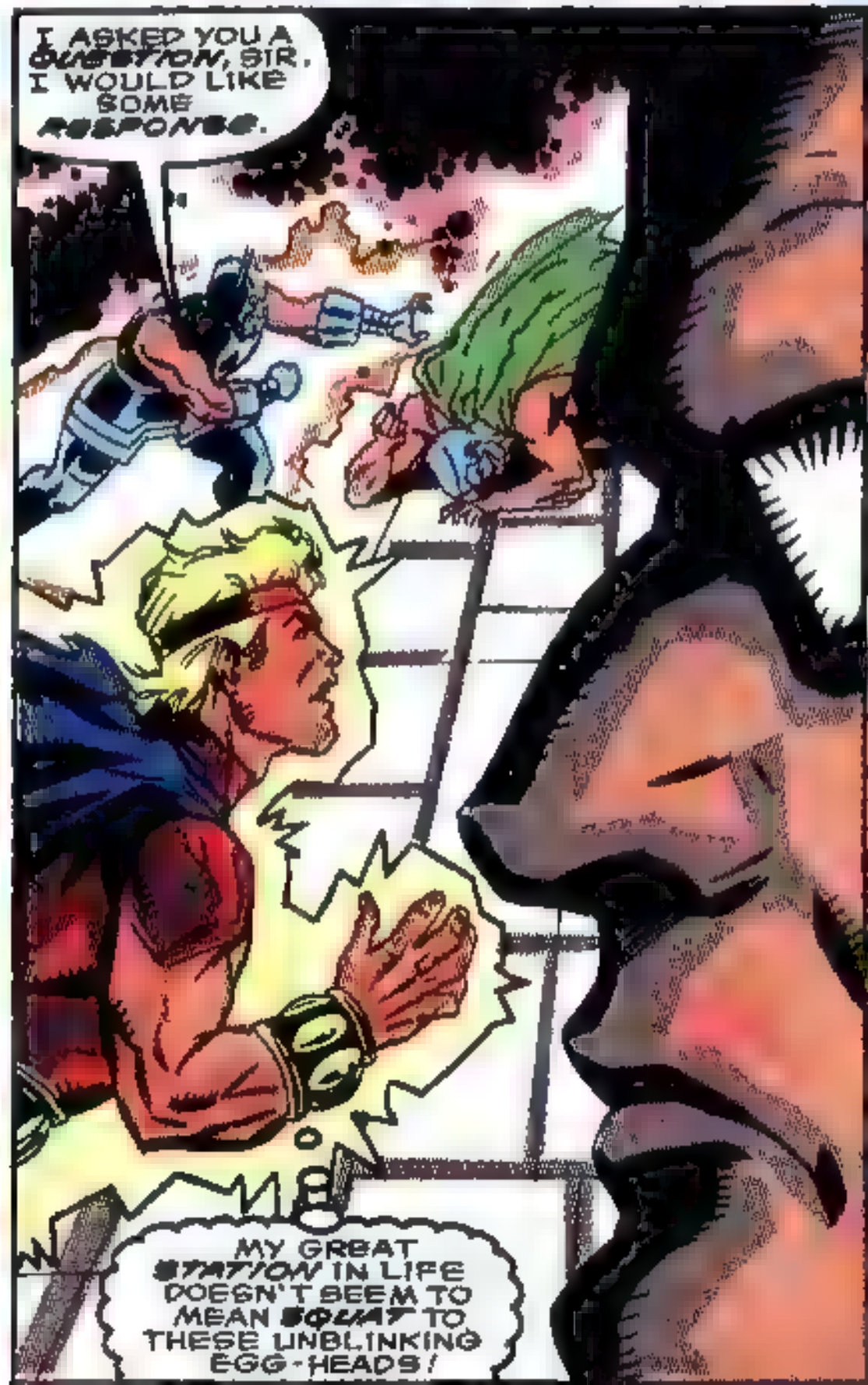
WHAT IN BON'S NAME IS GOING ON HERE? I KNOW THEY LIKE TO WATCH, BUT IS THE OVER-MIND/STRANGER FIGHT SUCH A BIG DEAL THAT IT TAKES THIS MANY WATCHERS TO WATCH IT?

EXCUSE ME, GENTLEMEN THE NAME'S QUASAR. I WAS APPOINTED PROJECTOR OF THE UNIVERSE BY AN EIGHT-BILLION YEAR OLD FELLOW NAMED BON.

\*LAST ISSUE.



BECAUSE OF THAT, I THINK I'M ENTITLED TO SOME ANSWERS. SUCH AS... WHAT ARE ALL YOU GUYS DOING HERE?



I ASKED YOU A QUESTION, SIR. I WOULD LIKE SOME RESPONSE.

MY GREAT STATION IN LIFE DOESN'T SEEM TO MEAN SO MUCH TO THESE UNBLINKING EGG-HEADS!



**CURSE YOU, STRANGER!**

THERE ARE  
MAYCARS HERE!  
I JUST SNATCHED  
A GLANCE  
AT THEM!

YOU SUMMONED  
THEM, DIDN'T YOU?  
DIDN'T YOU--P/P

THE STRANGER IS  
LOSING. IF HE IS  
HANDLED BY  
THIS MULTI-MINDED  
ENTITY, HE WILL BE  
UNABLE TO  
HELP US.

BUT WE  
CANNOT  
INTERFERE  
NO MATTER  
WHAT.

BUT THE FATE OF OUR ENTIRE  
RACE IS AT STAKE HERE. SURELY  
THAT GRANTS US SOME  
LATITUDE WITH OUR OATH.

IF YOU  
DARE TO ACT,  
OCAM, I WILL  
COUNTERACT  
YOU.

ALL ACTIONS  
WILL BE  
CENSORED.  
LET EVENTS  
TAKE THEIR  
COURSE.

IF THERE  
WERE JUST ONE  
OF THOSE INFERNAL  
SEERS HERE, I'D  
THINK HE WAS  
HERE TO OBSERVE  
MY ~~SAVO~~ VICTORY  
OVER YOU.

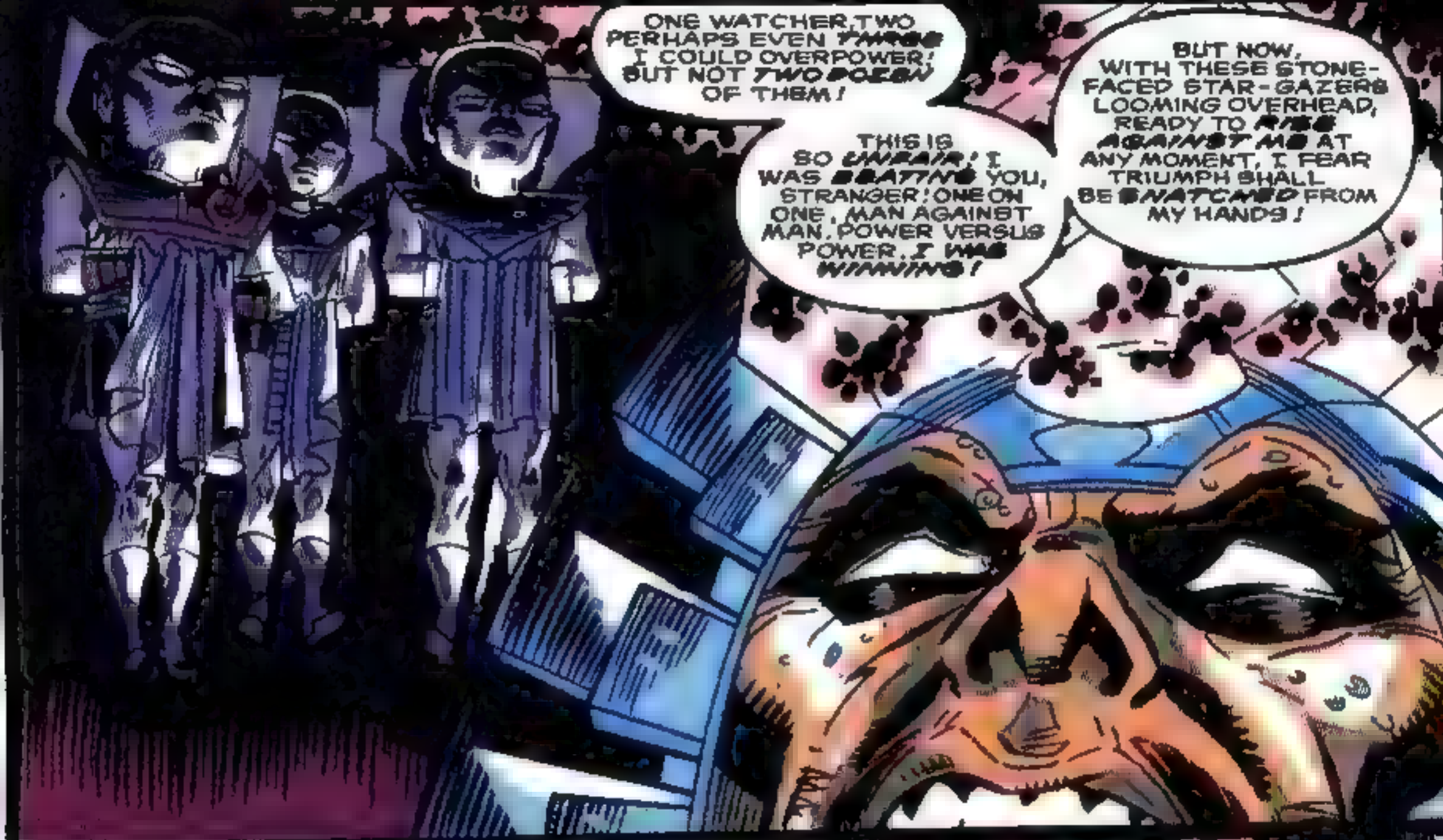
BUT THE FACT  
THAT SO MANY  
HAVE COME MEANS  
SOMETHING--AND I  
DON'T KNOW WHAT!  
THEIR MINDS ARE  
IMPERMEABLE  
TO ME!

YOU SENT FOR  
THEM, DIDN'T YOU,  
STRANGER? THEY'RE  
YOUR ALLIES COME  
TO HELP YOU!  
**CHEATER!!!**

MAY I APPRISE  
THE OVER-MIND  
OF THE ERRONEOUS  
NATURE OF HIS  
ASSUMPTION?

NO, EINU,  
THAT WOULD  
CONSTITUTE AN  
INTERACTION OF  
THE OATH!





ONE WATCHER TWO  
PERHAPS EVEN THREE  
I COULD OVERPOWER!  
BUT NOT TWO DOZEN  
OF THEM!

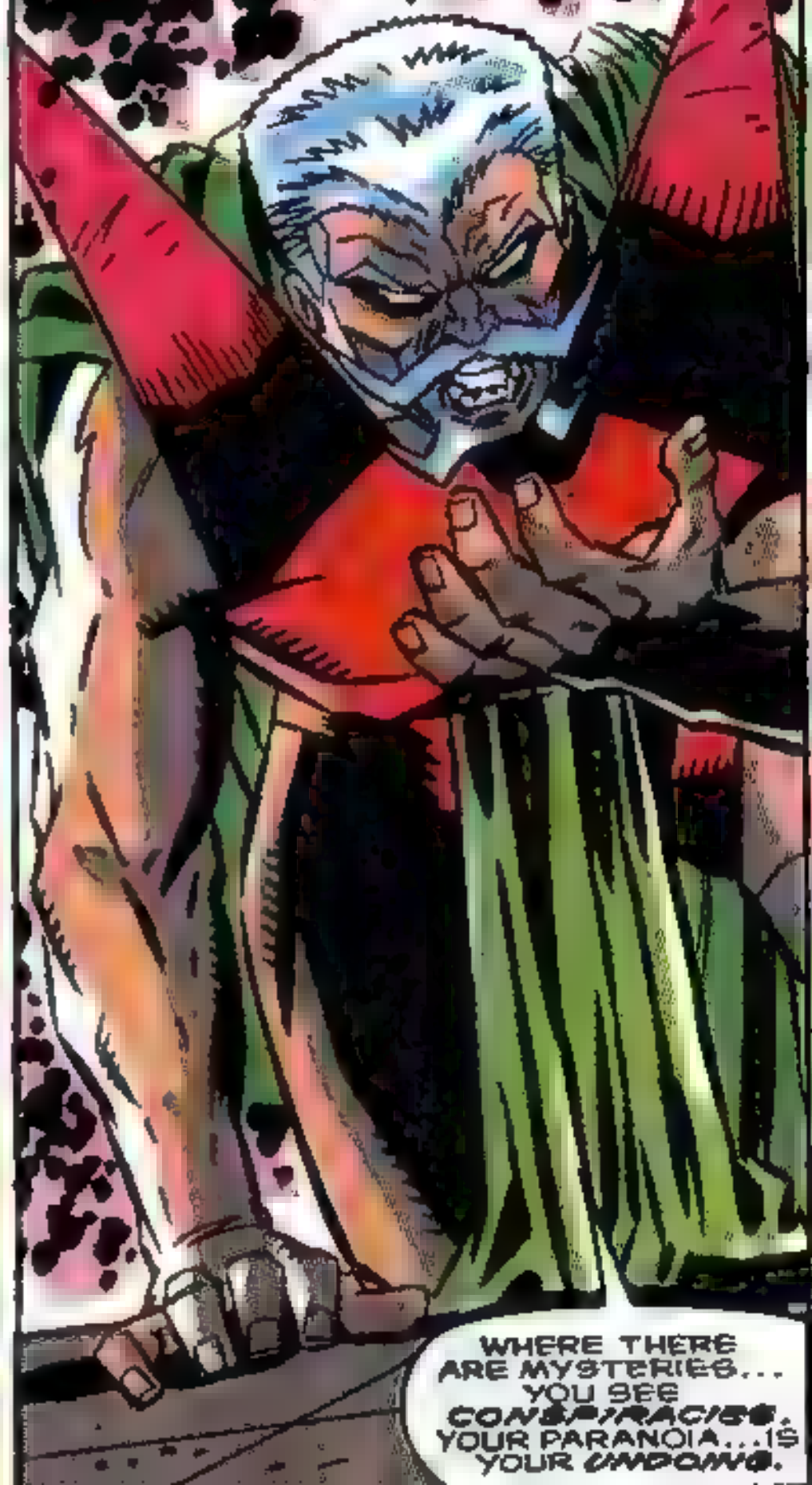
THIS IS  
SO UNFAIR! I  
WAS BEATING YOU,  
STRANGER! ONE ON  
ONE, MAN AGAINST  
MAN, POWER VERSUS  
POWER, I WAS  
WINNING!

BUT NOW,  
WITH THESE STONE-  
FACED STAR-GAZERS  
LOOMING OVERHEAD,  
READY TO RISE  
AGAINST ME AT  
ANY MOMENT, I FEAR  
TRIUMPH SHALL  
BE SNATCHED FROM  
MY HANDS!

I MUST KILL YOU,  
DON'T YOU SEE? I  
MUST OBLITERATE  
ALL THOSE WHO IMPEDE  
MY CONQUEST OF THE  
UNIVERSE OR ELSE  
THE GRANDEUR THAT  
WAS EYUNG SHALL  
DIE IN DISMAL  
DISGRACE.

YOU STAND BETWEEN ME  
AND MY GLORIOUS DESTINY,  
STRANGER! AND YOU DO NOT  
EVEN HAVE THE DECENCY TO  
FIGHT FAIRLY!

YOU'RE... WRONG.  
I DID NOT SUMMON...  
THE WATCHERS.



WHERE THERE  
ARE MYSTERIES...  
YOU SEE  
CONSPIRACIES.  
YOUR PARANOIA... IS  
YOUR UNDOING.



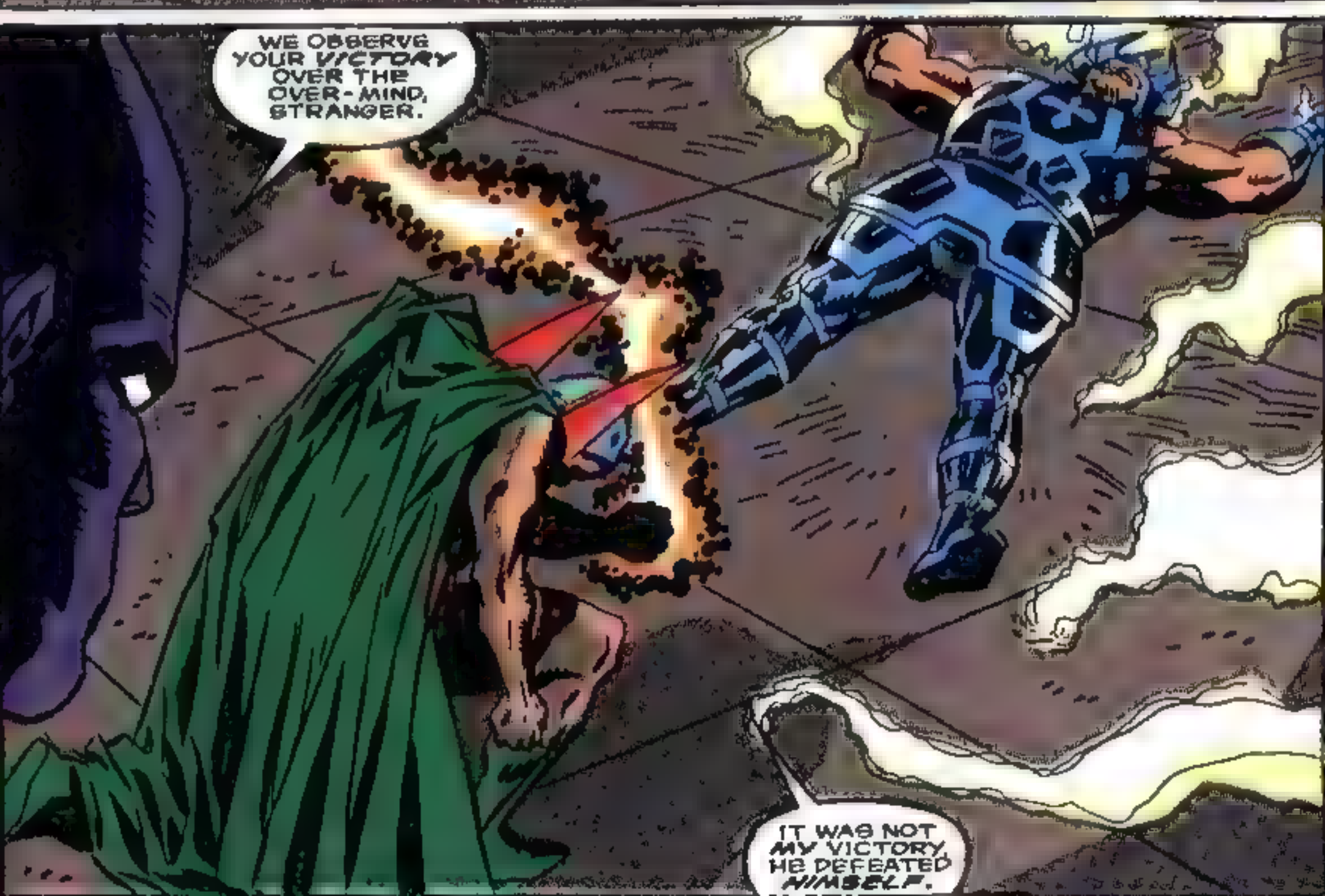
IT'S NOT FAIR! NOT FAIR!  
NOT FAIRRRRGGGGGH!

A MIND AS POTENT  
AS HIS, ALLOWING  
PARANOIA TO RUN RAMPANT--  
HE'S SELF-INDUCED  
PSYCHOSIS--BECOME  
TOTALLY CATATONIC!

HIS MENTAL  
STRANGLEHOLD  
OVER ME IS  
GONE.



WE OBSERVE  
YOUR VICTORY  
OVER THE  
OVER-MIND,  
STRANGER.



IT WAS NOT  
MY VICTORY.  
HE DEFEATED  
HIMSELF.



SURELY THIS STRUGGLE DID NOT WARRANT THIS MANY WITNESSES. WHAT BRINGS ALL OF YOU HERE TO MY WORLD?

WE NEED YOUR HELP.

WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE AWARE THAT IN RECENT CYCLES A NUMBER OF OUR KINSMEN HAVE SUCCEumbed TO OBLIVION.\*

MY HELP?

\* LAST ISSUE AGAIN.

YES... I RETRIEVED THE BODIES OF TEN OF YOUR NUMBER. THEY ARE ABOARD MY LIGHTSHIP EN ROUTE HERE.

BUT YOU NEED NOT WORRY. ONE OF THE BODIES IS THAT OF THE INVESTIGATOR OF THE SUICIDE CULT--OTMU, I BELIEVE.

SO WHAT DO YOU NEED ME FOR?

THE CRISIS HAS NOT DIMINISHED WITH THE APPARENT INSTIGATOR'S DEMISE.

NOT?

SINCE THE UNIVERSE WAS STILL IN ITS INFANCY, OUR PEOPLE'S CODE OF ETHICS HAS BEEN TO OBSERVE, BUT NEVER INTERFERE WITH THAT WHICH WE OBSERVE.

OTMU THE HERETIC ARGUED THAT THE VERY ACT OF OBSERVING AFFECTS THAT WHICH WE OBSERVE. THEREFORE TO TRULY FOLLOW OUR MORAL CODE, WE WOULD HAVE TO STOP OBSERVING, AND IN ORDER STOP OBSERVING, WE WOULD HAVE TO CEASE TO EXIST.



I AM AWARE OF ALL THAT.

BUT WHAT YOU PERHAPS ARE UN-AWARE IS THAT THE IDEA HAS BECOME A VIRUS--IT HAS TAKEN A LIFE ALL ITS OWN.

TO DATE, OVER A BILLION OF OUR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN AFFLICTED WITH THIS INFORMATION VIRUS AND HAVE ELECTED TO CEASE LIFE FUNCTIONS RATHER THAN CONTINUE TO VIOLATE THE OATH

WE CANNOT SEEM TO STOP THE VIRUS'S SPREAD. WE ARE A TELEPATHIC PEOPLE, THEREFORE IT HAS SPREAD ACROSS THE UNIVERSE AT THE SPEED OF THOUGHT. VIRTUALLY EVERY MIND IT ENTERS BECOMES OBSESSED WITH IT.

WE ARE BEINGS OF SUCH POWER THAT WE CAN MAKE OUR ERRANT WISHES REALITY. IF ANY OF US CONTEMPLATES THE NOTION OF NOTHINGNESS FOR A FRACTION OF AN INSTANT TOO LONG, HE INADVERTENTLY SUCCUMBS.

I AM SOMEWHAT INCREDULOUS THAT YOUR PEOPLE DID NOT ARRIVE AT THIS IDEA LONG AGO. IT IS PATENTLY OBVIOUS THAT THE OBSERVER INFLUENCES THE OBSERVED.

CONSIDER: ALTHOUGH YOU PEOPLE DID NOT DIRECT YOUR ENERGIES AT ~~ENTER~~ THE OVER-MIND OR MYSELF, YOU NEVERTHELESS AFFECTED THE OUTCOME OF OUR STRUGGLE.

BY ALLOWING YOURSELF TO BE SEEN, THE OVER-MIND, IN HIS MEGLOMANIA, ASSUMED YOU WERE HERE TO INTERFERE. THIS ASSUMPTION DISRUPTED HIS CONCENTRATION, AND EVENTUALLY HIS SANITY.

YOUR OBSERVATIONS DRAMATICALLY ALTERED THE EVENT YOU SOUGHT TO OBSERVE.

STOP IT, STRANGER! YOU JUST CAUSED FOUR MORE OF THESE GUYS TO THINK THEMSELVES TO DEATH!





I BID YOU TO **AVOID YOUR FORTUNE** IF IT IS IN SERVICE TO THE OBLIVION VIRUS.

THOUGH I HAVE NEVER HAD ANY **USE** FOR YOUR KIND, I NEVER MEANT YOU **WELL**. YOU HAVE MY **APOLOGIES**.

NOW WHAT IS IT YOU WISH ME TO DO?



WE COME TO YOU FOR **ADVICE**... FOR **WISDOM** IN HELPING US STANCH THE **ADVANCE** OF THIS DREAD DISEASE.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I CAN BE OF **HELP**?

WE HAVE MUCH IN **COMMON**, YOU AND OURSELVES WE BOTH ARE INTERESTED IN **ACCUMULATING KNOWLEDGE** OF THE UNIVERSE AND ITS MYRIAD LIFE FORMS. WHERE WE DIFFER IS THAT WHILE WE **PASSIVELY OBSERVE**, YOU **ACTIVELY ENGAGE** IN **EXPERIMENTS**.

WE COULD THINK OF NO OTHER **ENTITY**, ABSTRACT OR MATERIAL, WHO MIGHT HELP US RESOLVE THE **CONTRADICTIONS** THIS VIRUS POSES TO OUR **ETHICAL SYSTEM** BETTER THAN YOU.

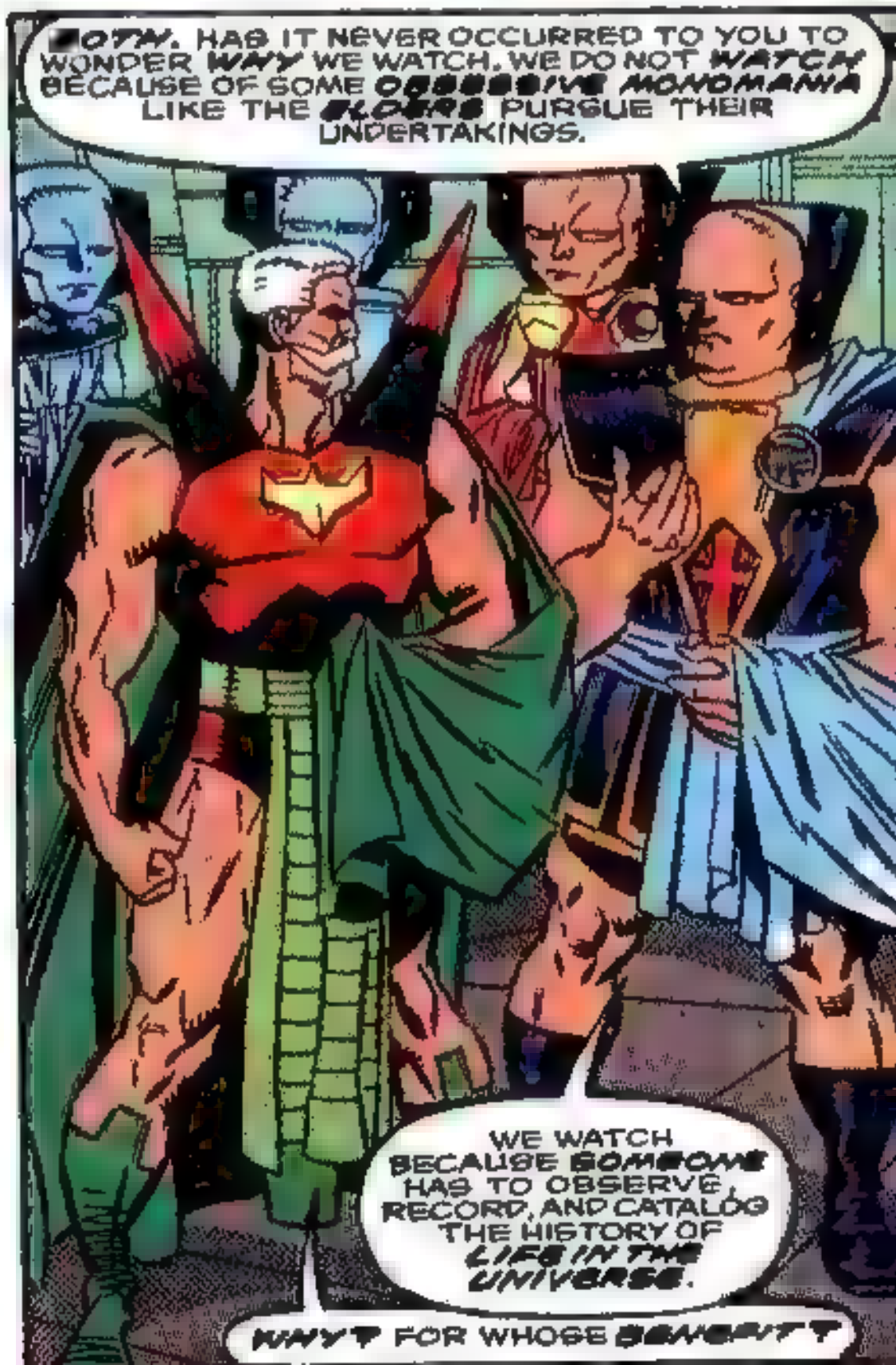


I AM **FLATTERED** I'M SO HIGHLY THOUGHT OF, BUT I DO NOT THINK YOU WILL **LIKE** THE **ADVICE** I HAVE TO GIVE.

**ABANDON** YOUR OATH. BECOME AN **ACTIVE EXPERIMENTER** LIKE MYSELF.

WE CANNOT.

CANNOT OR WILL NOT?



**BOTH**. HAS IT NEVER OCCURRED TO YOU TO WONDER **WHY** WE WATCH. WE DO NOT **WATCH** BECAUSE OF SOME **OBSESSIVE MONOMANIA** LIKE THE **ELDERS** PURSUE THEIR UNDERTAKINGS.

WE WATCH BECAUSE **SOMEONE** HAS TO **OBSERVE, RECORD, AND CATALOG** THE HISTORY OF **LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE**.

**WHY? FOR WHOSE BENEFIT?**





DARE WE  
REVEAL THE  
ULTIMATE  
REASON  
TO AN  
OUTSIDER?

WE MUST IF  
WE WISH TO  
ENGAGE HIS  
COOPERATION.

WE RECORD  
THE HISTORY OF THE  
UNIVERSE SO THAT  
THE UNIVERSE THAT  
WILL ~~ARISE~~ WHEN THE  
PRESENT ONE ~~FALLS~~  
MIGHT ~~DERIVE~~ FROM  
THE KNOWLEDGE OF  
THE ~~PREVIOUS~~  
CYCLE.

INTRIGUING.  
BUT I'M SORRY.  
I ~~STILL~~ DON'T KNOW  
WHAT TO SAY OR DO  
WHICH MIGHT  
RESOLVE YOUR  
ETHICAL  
DILEMMA.

EXCUSE ME,  
I THINK I  
KNOW THE ANSWER!  
TELL THEM TO  
LISTEN TO ME,  
STRANGER. I CAN  
HELP THEM.

YOU? NO... I THINK YOUR  
BRIEF LIFE ~~PRECLUDES~~  
YOU FROM HAVING ANY  
WISDOM THAT THESE  
ANCIENT BEINGS OR  
MYSELF DO NOT.



YOU  
POMPOUS  
OLD--!

ALL RIGHT THEN,  
I'M GOING TO JUST  
HAVE TO GET THEIR  
ATTENTION THE  
OLD-FASHIONED WAY.



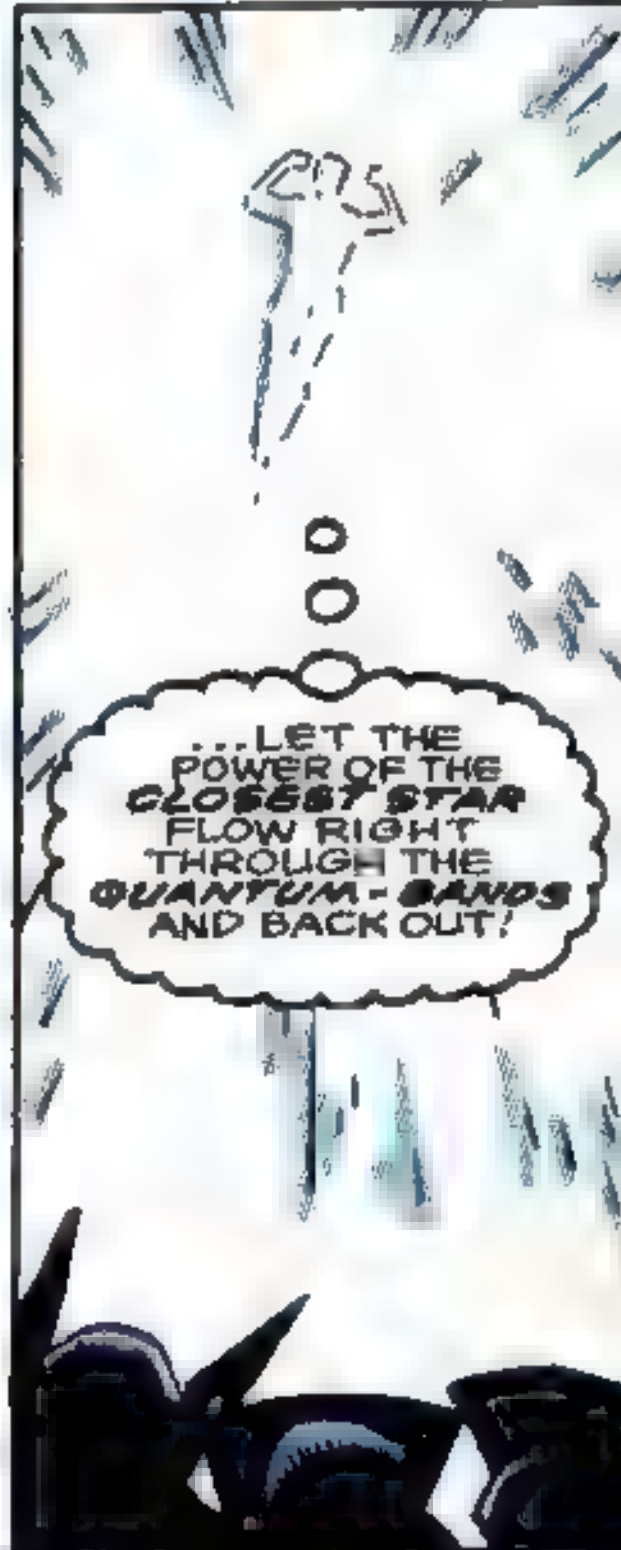
THOSE  
IMPETUOUS  
EARTHMEN...!



GOTTA  
BE CAREFUL,  
LET THE POWER  
BUILD UP  
SLOWLY...!



STEADY NOW...  
CONCENTRATE...



...LET THE  
POWER OF THE  
CLOSEST STAR  
FLOW RIGHT  
THROUGH THE  
QUANTUM-BANDS  
AND BACK OUT!



I'M DOING IT! I'M  
ON TOP OF IT ALL!  
I'M NOT LETTING  
ANY OF IT GET  
AWAY FROM ME--!

ALL RIGHT!  
NOW I'LL SHOW  
THEM THIS ISN'T JUST  
ANY RUNNY-NOSED,  
WET-BEHIND-THE-EARS  
PSEUDO-COSMIC  
UPSTART THEY'RE  
DEALING WITH  
HERE!

I'M QUASAR--  
MASTER OF THE  
QUANTUM-SANDS!  
GUARDIAN OF EON!  
PROTECTOR OF THE  
WHOLE FLIPPING  
UNIVERSE!

AND I'M NOT  
GOING TO BE  
IGNORED!





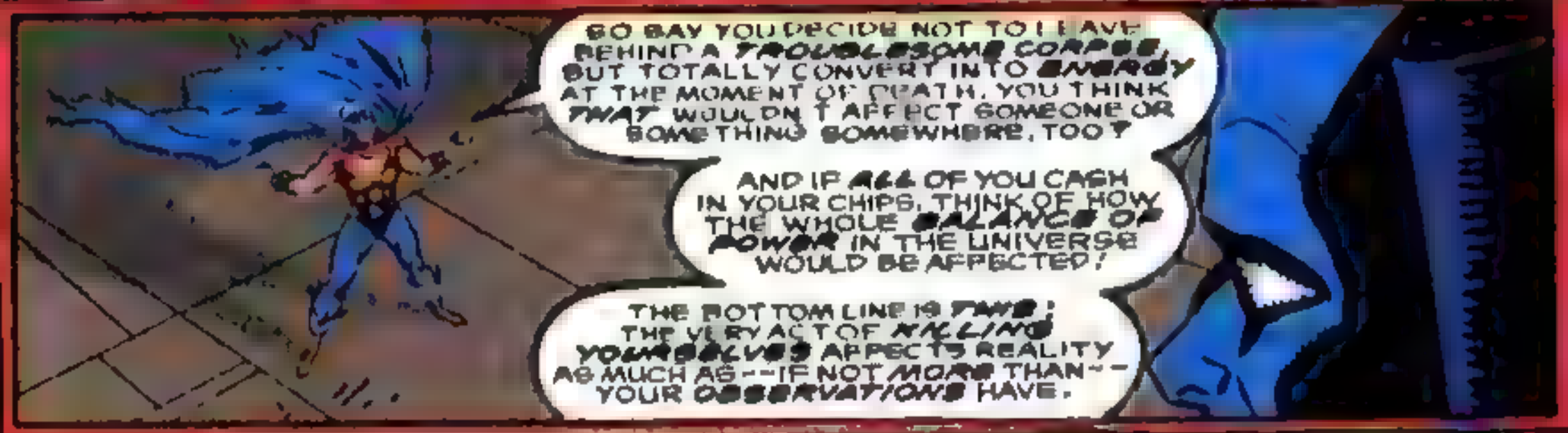
THAT STUNT LEFT ME EXHAUSTED,  
ALMOST PASSED OUT ON THE WAY  
DOWN!

AHEM IF I HAVE  
YOUR ATTENTION,  
PLEASE LISTEN  
TO WHAT I  
HAVE TO SAY.

DEAD OR ALIVE  
MAKES NO DIFFERENCE  
DON'T YOU SEE? EVEN YOUR  
DEATHS AFFECT THE  
UNIVERSE-- AFFECT  
THAT WHICH YOU WISH  
TO INTRUSIVELY  
OBSERVE!

CASE IN POINT:  
THE STRANGER'S SPENT  
WHO-KNOWS-HOW-LONG  
GATHERING ~~WATCHER~~ CORPSES  
TO EXAMINE. WHILE HE WAS DOING  
THAT, THE OVER-MIND SNEAKED  
IN, WRECKED HIS LAB-WORLD, AND  
SET UP AN AMBUSH  
THAT NEARLY COST THE STRANGER  
HIS LIFE.

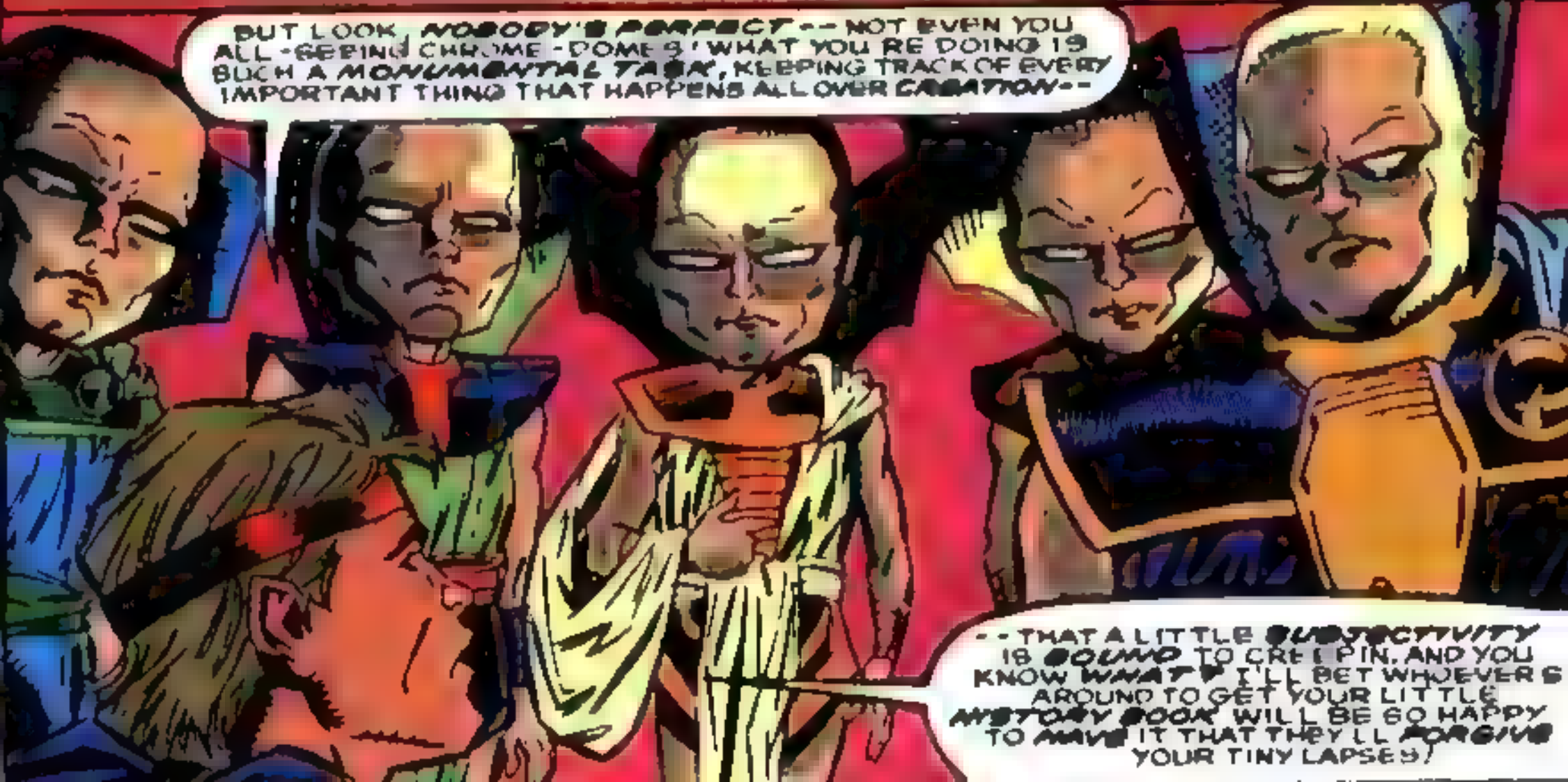
NONE OF THAT WOULD  
HAVE HAPPENED IF  
NOT FOR YOU GUYS  
DOING YOURSELVES IN.  
AND THAT'S JUST  
ONE EXAMPLE.



SO SAY YOU DECIDE NOT TO LEAVE  
BEHIND A TROUBLESOME CORPSE,  
BUT TOTALLY CONVERT INTO ENERGY  
AT THE MOMENT OF DEATH. YOU THINK  
THAT WOULDN'T AFFECT SOMEONE OR  
SOMETHING SOMEWHERE, TOO?

AND IF ALL OF YOU CASH  
IN YOUR CHIPS, THINK OF HOW  
THE WHOLE BALANCE OF  
POWER IN THE UNIVERSE  
WOULD BE AFFECTED!

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THIS:  
THE VERY ACT OF KILLING  
YOURSELVES AFFECTS REALITY  
AS MUCH AS--IF NOT MORE THAN--  
YOUR OBSERVATIONS HAVE.



BUT LOOK, NOBODY'S PERFECT-- NOT EVEN YOU  
ALL-SEEING CHROME-DOME S! WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS  
SUCH A MONUMENTAL TASK, KEEPING TRACK OF EVERY  
IMPORTANT THING THAT HAPPENS ALL OVER CREATION--

-- THAT A LITTLE SUBJECTIVITY  
IS SOUND TO CREEP IN. AND YOU  
KNOW WHAT? I'LL BET WHOEVER'S  
AROUND TO GET YOUR LITTLE  
HISTORY BOOK WILL BE SO HAPPY  
TO HAVE IT THAT THEY'LL FORGIVE  
YOUR TINY LAPSES!





WHAT A FOUL  
AUDIENCE. CAN'T  
TELL HOW THEY  
TOOK WHAT I--

WHAT YOU  
HAVE SAID,  
QUASAR OF  
EARTH, HAS  
MERIT.

HUNT ONE OF  
THE FOUR DEAD  
WATCHERS IS  
SITTING UP--!

IF BOTH OUR  
LIVES AND DEATHS  
AFFECT THE UNIVERSE,  
THEN THE LOSS OF THE  
TWO EVILS IS TO REMAIN  
ALIVE SO AT LEAST WE  
CAN GO ABOUT OUR  
APPOINTED  
TASK.



I  
AGREE.

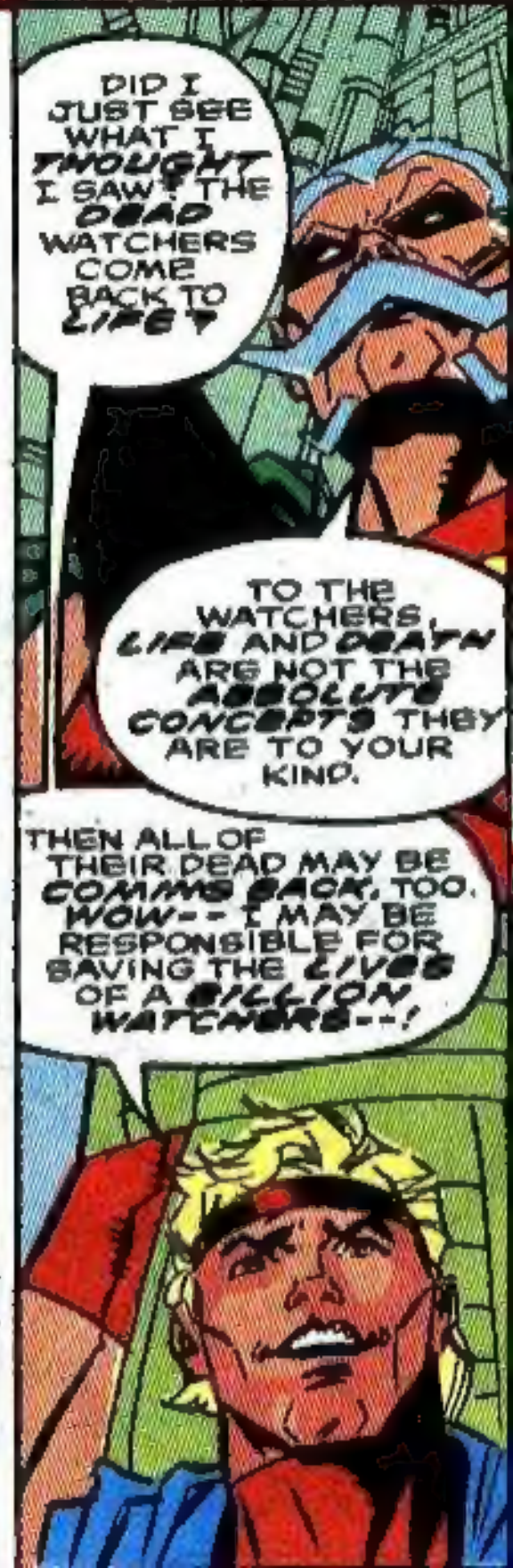
AS  
DO  
I.



THE LIFE-AFFIRMING  
IDEA, NOW KNOWN BY US HERE,  
WILL BE THOUGHT-SPREAD  
THROUGHOUT OUR KIND EVEN AS  
THE OBLIVION PLAGUE  
WAS SPREAD.

WE CAN  
GO ON.

YOUR  
RACE IS  
WISE BEYOND  
ITS YEARS,  
QUASAR.



DID I  
JUST SEE  
WHAT I  
THOUGHT  
I SAW? THE  
DEAD  
WATCHERS  
COME  
BACK TO  
LIFE?

TO THE  
WATCHERS,  
LIFE AND DEATH  
ARE NOT THE  
ABSOLUTE  
CONCEPTS THEY  
ARE TO YOUR  
KIND.

THEN ALL OF  
THEIR DEAD MAY BE  
COMING BACK, TOO.  
WOW-- I MAY BE  
RESPONSIBLE FOR  
SAVING THE LIVES  
OF A BILLION  
WATCHERS--!



NOW SEE TO YOUR FRIENDS  
AND GO. I MUST DEAL WITH  
THE OVER-MIND, AND THEN  
REPAIR THE DAMAGE TO MY  
WORLD-LABORATORY AND  
RECAPTURE WHAT  
SPECIMENS I CAN.

I WAS GOING  
TO ASK YOU ABOUT  
THAT. SOME OF YOUR  
SO-CALLED  
SPECIMENS I  
ENCOUNTERED LOOKED  
LIKE THEY WEREN'T  
BEING TREATED VERY  
HUMANELY.

WANNA BET?  
I'M PROTECTOR  
OF THE UNIVERSE.  
HAD THEY NOT  
ALL ESCAPED, I  
MIGHT HAVE  
SET THEM  
FREE.

THAT IS BECAUSE I  
AM NOT HUMAN--  
NOR ARE THEY. YOUR  
STANDARDS DO NOT  
APPLY HERE.

DON'T TRIFLE  
WITH ME,  
HUMAN. YOU  
SAVE A  
BILLION  
LIVES AND  
NOW YOU  
THINK YOU ARE  
THE  
UNIVERSE'S  
GIFT.

BUT WHILE  
EON HAS HAD  
A LONG  
SUCCESSION  
OF BEINGS TO  
"PROTECT THE  
UNIVERSE,"  
THERE HAS EVER  
BEEN BUT ONE  
STRANGER!  
I NEED EXPLAIN  
MY ACTIONS TO  
NO ONE!

NOW  
GO!

AAH, GO WAX  
YOUR  
MUSTACHES.

HEY,  
SQUADRON!

QUAAR! WHAT IN THE  
WORLD HAPPENED? WHAT  
WAS THAT HUGE SOLAR  
FLARE THAT--

I'LL  
EXPLAIN IT  
ALL LATER.  
RIGHT NOW  
LET'S JUST  
FIND THE  
SAID YOU  
ALL CAME  
HERE ON AND  
FLY IT  
BACK TO  
EARTH!





LET ME TELL  
YOU, I REALLY  
APPRECIATE THE  
LIFT BACK...

... I'M WAY  
TOO POOPED  
TO MAKE A  
QUANTUM  
JUMP.

LEAST WE CAN  
DO AFTER HOW YOU  
RESCUED US.

IT'S A  
LONG  
STORY...

WELL, IT ~~IS~~ GONNA TAKE US  
AT LEAST ~~SIX HOURS~~ TO GET  
BACK TO EARTH...

SO WHAT'S  
THE SCOOP WITH  
THAT CIRCLE OF  
BALD GUYS?

DON'T KEEP ME IN ~~SUSPENSE~~  
ANY LONGER, HY--TELL ME HOW  
YOUR ~~SIGHT~~ WAS RESTORED.



I'VE GOT QUASAR'S  
FRIEND ~~MAKKARI~~  
TO THANK. HE TOOK  
ME TO SEE THIS  
~~TEACHER~~ OF HIS  
WHO RETAUGHT ME  
HOW TO ~~SEE~~.

BUT...  
NOW?

IT SEEMS I'M THE  
~~SAME SUBSPECIES~~  
OF HUMANITY AS  
MAKKARI AND HIS  
TEACHER--AN ~~ETERNAL~~.  
MAKKARI NOTICED THE  
RESEMBLANCE  
IMMEDIATELY.\*



\*ISSUE  
#13.

ON OUR EARTH, THEY  
APPARENTLY ALL ~~DIED OFF~~  
EXCEPT FOR ME. ON THEIRS,  
ETERNALS ARE STILL  
PLENTIFUL.



~~AMAZING!~~  
WHO'D HAVE EVER  
THOUGHT YOU'D  
SOLVE THE MYSTERY  
OF YOUR ~~ORIGINS~~  
SO FAR AWAY  
FROM HOME?

LATER...



GAVE SPEC THE  
READER'S ~~DIGEST~~ VERSION  
OF WHAT WENT ON.  
ALL I WANT TO DO IS CATCH  
A COUPLE ~~Z'S~~ ON  
THE RIDE BACK.

CAN'T WAIT TO TELL  
DAD AND SON WHAT  
HAPPENED. I'M TEMPTED  
TO CALL ~~AMBA~~, BUT  
I'D MUCH RATHER SEE  
THEIR REACTIONS IN ~~PERSON~~!



EPISODE:

IN FRONT OF THE HYPERSPACE-SKIMMING STARSHIP, IN THE BUILDING WHERE QUASAR MAKES HIS OFFICE ON EARTH, THERE IS A SPECIAL ROOM.

IT IS A FINITE POCKET OF HYPERSPACE WHERE THE EIGHT BILLION YEAR OLD ENTITY WHO IS QUASAR'S COSMIC MENTOR CURRENTLY RESIDES.

UNTIL TODAY, ONLY TWO BEINGS ON EARTH HAVE BEEN INSIDE THIS ROOM-- QUASAR AND HIS FATHER.

NOW THERE IS A THIRD. SHE CALLS HERSELF M.D. STOCKLEY AND SHE JOINED THE SECURITY FIRM QUASAR PRESIDES OVER IN HIS CIVILIAN GUISE A MERE MONTH AGO.

SHE SOMEHOW KNEW OF THIS ROOM, AND KNEW WHAT SHE WOULD FIND IN IT. CURIOUSLY, HOWEVER, WHAT SHE FINDS IN IT IS NOT WHAT QUASAR AND HIS FATHER HAVE EVER FOUND...

WONT  
ARE YOU  
THERE?

MY  
NAME  
IS--

I KNOW  
WHO  
YOU ARE.

COME IN--  
I'VE BEEN  
EXPECTING  
YOU.

AlIEEEEN!

THE DOORWAY TO  
HYPERSPACE SLIDES  
SHUT.

END.